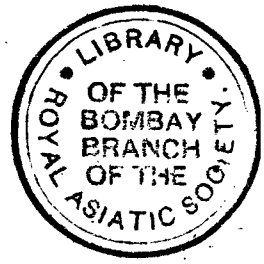
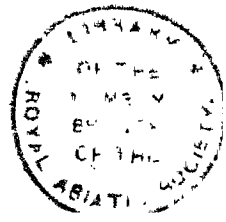
Records of Fort St George

DESPATCHES FROM ENGLAND

1686—1692





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PREFATORY NOTE

THE following pages present in print the letters received from England during 1686—1692, as contained in the 8th, 9th and 10th volumes of the series "Des-patches from England" and supplemented by transcripts supplied by the courtesy of the India Office, who had also the kindness to fill up the gaps and to read the proofs.

The missing portions in the Charter granted by King James II on the 12th April 1686, appearing on page 1 of the book, were filled in by a reference to the same Charter in the "Charters relating to the East India Company from 1600 to 1761" printed in 1887.

The pages of the original volumes have been mended.

EGMORE,
1*st March* 1929.

A. V. VENKATARAMA AYYAR,
Curator, Madras Record Office.

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WITH YOU, RIGHT THROUGH

on 10 January, 2019

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RECORDS OF FORT ST. GEORGE

DESPATCHES FROM ENGLAND

1686–1692

List of the Pacq[uet]

by the Loyall M[erchant]

1. Companyes Generall to y^e^. ffort dated y^e^. 3^d^. Aug[ust 1687].
2. Copy of the Comp^as^. Generall to Bombay dated y^e^. 3^d^. [August] 1687.
3. Copy of y^e^. Comp^as^ Generall to y^e^. Fort dated y^e^. 6^th^. June, [Overland].
4. Copy of y^e^. Comp^as^. Generalls to Bencoolen dated y^e^. 3^d^. and 31^st^. August.
5. Book of Rates.
6. Copy of Captain Bowers affidavitt.
7. Copy of Mr. Blooms Comission to be Judge Advocate at Bencoolen.
8. Clause of a letter from Mr. Thomas Lucas (master of the Rosepink, attending the Herbert) from Bencoolen.
9. Copy of the Comp^as^. Charters.

Secretary's letter to Fort St. George, Dated April 29, 1686. Received May 19, 1687. Per Tonqueen Merchant via Surat. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 8, *p.* 5.]

Our President and Council
at ffort St. George.

Since closing our Pacquett by this ship y^e^. Loyall Captain Wee have rec^d^. his Maj^ties^. charter, under the great seal of England confirming all former grants made to our Company, with addiconall Powers for Coynage, and exercising the Law Martiall, a true Copy whereof Wee send you enclosed, which is all at present from

Copy of his majesty's charter with a grant for coinage: and martial Law sent Enclosed.

Your very loving ffriends
Signed by order of the Governor
Ro: Blackborne.
Sec^y^.

East India House,
29^th^ April 1686.

His Present Majestyes Charter.

12th April 1686.

JAMES the second by the Grace of God King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King Defender of y^e^. ffaith, &ca. To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting. Whereas Our Welbeloved Subjects, y^e^. Gov^r^. and Comp^a^. of Merchants, trading into the East-Indies, have been of long since a Corporation, to y^e^. honour and profitt of this Nation, and have enjoyed and do enjoy divers Liberties Priviledges and Immunities by force of several Letters Patents heretofore granted to them, by our late Royall Progenitors and Predecessors, Queen Elizabeth and King James: And whereas the late King Charles y^e^. Second our dearly beloved Brother, of ever blessed Memory, did, by his Royall Charter or Letters Patents bearing date at Westminster the third day of April in the 13th year of his Reign amongst other things, give grant ratifie and confirm, unto his Trusty and Welbeloved Subjects the Govern^r^. and Comp^a^. of Merchants of London trading into the East Indies That they, from thenceforth for ever be and should be one Body Corporate and Politique, in deed and name by y^e^. name of y^e^. Gov^r^. and Comp^a^. of Merch^ts^. of London trading into y^e^. East Indies.

And further, that they and all that then were or should be of the said Company & every of them, and all the sonnes of them and every of them, at their severall ages of one and twenty Years or upwards; and that all such the Apprentices ffactors and servants of them and every of them, which thereafter should be employ'd by the said Company in y^e^. said trade of Merchandize of or to the East Indies beyond the Seas or any other the places therein for that Purpose menc̃oned, should and might from thenceforth for ever from the day of the date of y^e^. said Letters Patents freely traffique and use the trade of Merchandize by seas, in and by such wayes & passages then found out and discover'd or w^ch^. then after should be found out and discover'd as they should esteem and take to be fittest, into and from the said East Indies in the Countreys and Parts of Asia, and Affrica and into and from the Islands Ports Havens Citties Creeks Townes and Places of Asia, Affrica, and America, or any of them beyond the Cape of Bona Esperanza to y^e^. Streights of Magellan, where any trade or Traffique of Merchandize might be used or had, and to and from every of them in such order manner form liberty and Condition to all intents and purposes as should be from time to time at any publick Assembly or Court, holden by or for y^e^. said Gov^r^. and Company, by or between them of the said Fellowship or Company of Merchants of London trading into the East Indies, or y^e^. more part of them for y^e^. time being present at such Assembly or Court y^e^. Gov^r^. or his Deputy being always present at such Court or Assembly limited and agreed, and not otherwise, any molestation impeachment or disturbance, any Statute Usage Diversity of Religion or Faith, or any other cause or matter whatsoever to y^e^. contrary notwithstanding: so always the same trade be not undertaken or address'd to any Country, Island, Port, Haven, City, Creek, Town or Place in the lawfull and actuall Possession of any such Christian Prince or State, as then was, or at any time thereafter should be in League or Amity with the said late King His Heirs or Successors & who then did not, or would not accept of any such trade but did openly declare and publish the same, to be utterly against his & their good will & liking.

And further the said late King did thereby, for himself His Heirs and Successors grant unto y^e^. said Gov^r^. and Company of Merchants of London Trading into the East Indies, and to their Successors, that they and their Successors and their Factors, Serv^ts^. and Assigns in the Trade or Merchandize for them & on their behalf, and not otherwise should for ever after have use and enjoy y^e^. whole entire & only Trade and Traffique, and the whole entire and only liberty Use and priviledge of trading and traffiquing and using the Feat and trade of Merchandize, to and from the said East Indies, and to and from all the Islands Ports Havens Cittyes Towns and Places therein for that Purpose menc̃on'd in such manner and form as is therein menc̃on'd.

And the said late King did thereby, for himself for his Heirs and Successors further grant to the said Gov^r^. and Company and their Successors, that the said East Indies or the Islands Havens Ports Cityes Towns or Places thereof, or any part thereof, should not be visited frequented or haunted, by any the subjects of him His Heirs or Successors, during y^e^. time that the said Letters Patents should be in force, and not revoked or repealed contrary to y^e^. true meaning of the said Letters Patents.

And the said late King, by vertue of his Prerogative Royall, which Hee would not in that behalf have argued or brought in question, did also by his said Letters Patents, streightly charge Command and Prohibit for himself his Heirs and Successors, all y^e^. Subjects of him his Heirs and Successors of what Degree or quality soever they were y^t^. none of them directly or indirectly visit, haunt, frequent & trade, traffique or adventure, by way of Merchandize, into or from any the said East Indies, or places therein for that Purpose menc̃on'd, other than y^e^. s^d^. Gov^r^. and Company, and such particular Persons as then were or after should be of that Company, their Agents, ffactors and Assigns during y^e^. time y^t^. y^e^. s^d^. L^res^. Patents should be in force, unless by & with y^e^. Licence & agreement of y^e^. s^d^. Gov^r^. and Company, in writing first had & obtain'd under their Common Seal to be granted, upon the Pains and fforfeitures in y^e^. said Letters Patents at large express'd;

as in and by y^e^. said Letters Patents (Relation being thereunto had) amongst Sev^l^. other Grants, Covenants, Powers, Clauses, Liberties, Immunities, Priviledges, Preheminences & Provisoes, therein conteyn'd and expressed, may more fully appear.

And whereas y^e^. s^d^. late King Charles the Second, by His Royall Charter or Lre^s^. Patents bearing Date, at Westminster y^e^. 27^th^. day of March, in the 20^th^. year of his Reign by the advice of his Privy Council, in all the Grants and Matters therein, did grant transfer and confirm, for himself, his Heirs and Successors, unto the said Gov^r^. and Company, all that Port and Island of Bombay, in the East Indies, with all the Rights Proffitts Territoryes and appurtenances thereof whatsoever; & all and singular Royallties, Revenues, Rents, Customs, Castles, fforts, Buildings and ffortifications, Priviledges, Franchises, Preheminences and Hereditaments whatsoever within y^e^. Premises, or to them or any of them belonging or in any wise appertaining, in as large & ample manner, to all Intents Constructions and Purposes, as the said late King then had and enjoy'd the same, or might or ought to have had and enjoy'd the same, by vertue and force of the Grant of the then King of Portugall, and not further or otherwise: And them, the said Gov^r^. and Company their Successors and Assigns the said late King thereby, for himself his Heirs and Successors did make create and constitute the true and Absolute Lords and Proprietors of y^e^. Port & Island, and premises therein menc̃on'd, and of every part and parcell thereof, which to him y^e^. said late King appertain'd, by force of y^e^. Grant from y^e^. said King of Portugall and not further or otherwise; saving and alwayes reserving to himself, his Heirs and Successors, the ffaith and Allegiance to him due & belonging, and His Royall Power and Sovereignty of and over his subjects and Inhabitants there to have hold possess and enjoy y^e^. said Port and Island and all and singular other the Premises therein before granted or menc̃on'd to be granted, unto the said Gov^r^. and Company their successors and Assigns, for ever to the only Use of the said Gov^r^. and Company, their Successors and Assigns, for evermore, to be holden of him the said late King, his Heirs and Successors, as of His Manor of East Greenwich in the county of Kent, in free and common Soccage, and not in Capite, nor by Knight's Service yielding and paying therefor to him, the said late King, his Heirs and Successors, at the Custom House London, the Rent or Sum of Ten Pounds of lawfull Money of England, in Gold, on the 30th Day of September, yearly for ever.

And the said late King did for himself, his Heirs and Successors also grant, that it should and might be lawfull to and for the said Gov^r^. and Comp^a^. their Successors and Assigns and to and for their Agents ffactors and Servants and every of them to have hold use exercise enjoy and execute all and singular the Jurisdictions Powers Liberties Priviledges Benefitts and Advantages w^t^. soever within the said Ports and Island Bombay and in all and every of their Voyages, thither and from thence, and in all and every of their trade traffique and merchandizing there, thither or from thence, to and from any Place or Places whatsoever, as they, y^e^. said Gov^r^. and Comp^a^. their Successors and Assigns, or their Agents, ffactors and servants, or any of them might or could hold use exercise enjoy and execute by force and vertue of his said Royall Charter or L̃re^s^. Patents, bearing date at Westminster the said 3^d^. Day of April, in y^e^. 13^th^. year of his Reign in any other place or Places, in y^e^. said East Indies or touching or concerning any other their Plantations fforts Castles Colonies ffactories Agents, ffactors and Servants or touching or concerning any their trade traffique or merchandizing Goods Wares and Commodities or any other matter or thing of or belonging unto the said Company compriz'd or menc̃on'd or intended to be compriz'd within the said Charter or L̃re^s^. Patents bearing Date the 3^d^ day of April aforesaid, in as large and ample manner to all intents, constructions and purposes, as if y^e^. same Jurisdictions Powers, Liberties Priviledges Immunities, Benefitts and Advantages were in the Second recited L̃re^s^. Patents of the said late King Charles the Second particularly menc̃on'd and expressed as in and by the same L̃re^s^ Patents (Relation being thereunto had) amongst divers other Grants, Provisoes, Powers and Clauses, Liberties, Immunities, Priviledges and Preheminences may more fully

appear. And whereas y^e^. said late King Charles the Second did, by His Royall Charter or L^res^. Patents, bearing Date at Westminster y^e^. 5^th^. day of October in y^e^. 28^th^. Year of His Reign for himself his Heirs & Successors ratify, & confirm unto y^e^. said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. and their Successors for ever, All & Singular the Rights Libertyes & ffranchises to them formerly given granted or confirm'd, by the two first recited Chres or L^res^. Patents of the said late King Charles y^e^. Second herein before mencon'd or either of them; notwithstanding any former Misuser, Nonuser, or Abuser whatsoever, of the said Rights Liberties, & ffranchises or any of them by the said Govern^r^. and Company, or by their ffactors Agents and Servants, or any of them, To have hold exercise and enjoy the said Rights Libertyes & ffranchises & every of them unto the said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. and their Successors for ever, To the only use & behoof of the said Gov^r^. and Comp^a^. and their Success^rs^. for evermore, in as large and ample manner and form to all Intents Construccons and purposes, as by Vertue of y^e^. two first recited Charters or either of them, they might, could, or ought to have had and enjoyed the same, if such Misuser Nonuser or Abuser had never been, as in or by the said Charter or Letters Patents, bearing Date y^e^. said 5^th^. day of October aforesaid Relation being thereunto had, amongst divers other Grants Libertyes, Immunities Priviledges and Preheminences may more fully appear.

And whereas the said late King Charles the Second by his Royall Chre or Letters Patents, bearing Date at Westminster y^e^. 16^th^. day of December, in y^e^. 25^th^. year of his Reign for himself his Heirs & Successors, did give grant and confirm unto the said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. their Successors and Assigns, all that the Island of Saint Helena, with all the Rights, Proffits, Territories and Appurtenances whatsoever; and all y^e^. Soil Lands Fields Woods, Mountains ffarms Lakes Pools Harbours, Rivers, Bays, Isles Islets, scituate or being within the Bounds or Limits thereof; with y^e^. Fishing of all Sorts of Fish, Whales, Sturgeons, and all other Royall Fishes in the Bays, Islets and Rivers, within y^e^. same Premises, and the Fish therein taken, and all the Veins, Mines and Quarries as well Royal Mines as other Mines, whether the same were then discovered, or not discovered, and also all Gold, Silver, Gemms, and Precious Stones, and all other whatsoever be it of Stones Metals or any thing whatsoever then found or to be found, within the Veins, Mines or Quarries of y^e^. same Island & Premises, And all and Singular Royalties Revenues Rents Customs Castles Forts, and Buildings and ffortifications then erected, & to be erected on y^e^. premises or any part thereof; And all Priviledges, ffranchises, Preheminences and Hereditaments whatsoever, within the same, or to them, or any of them, belonging or in any wise appertaining, in as large and ample Manner to all Intents, Constructions and Purposes, as the said late King Charles y^e^. Second then had, and enjoy'd, or might or could have or enjoy y^e^. same, by virtue or force of the same late Kings Conquest thereof or otherwise howsoever; and them, the said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. their Success^rs^. and Assigns, he the said late King Charles y^e^. Second for himself his Heirs & Successors, did thereby make create and constitute the true and absolute Lords and Proprietors of the same Island and Premises, and of every part thereof; saving and alwaies reserving to the same late King his Heirs & Suc^rs^. the faith and Allegiance to them due and belonging, & their Royall Power and Sovereignty of and over their Subjects and Inhabitants there, To have hold possess and enjoy y^e^. same Islands, and all and Singular other the Premises therein before granted or mencond to be granted, unto the s^d^. Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. their Success^rs^. and Assigns for ever, To the only Use of The said Gov^r^. & Company their Success^rs^. & Assigns, for evermore, to be holden of the said late King, his Heirs & Success^rs^. as of the Manor of East Greenwich, in y^e^. County of Kent in free & comon Soccage, and not in Capite, nor by Kn^ts^. Service, as in and by y^e^. said L^res^. Patents Relation being thereunto had amongst divers other Grants Powers Liberties, Priviledges, Preheminences and Clauses therein expressed, may more fully appear.

And Whereas y^e^. same late King, by his Royall Charter or L^res^. Patents, bearing Date, at Westminster, y^e^. 9^th^. Day of August, in y^e^. 35^th^. Year of his Reign, did erect & establish a Court of Judicature, to be held at such Place or

Places, Fort or Forts, Plantacons or ffactories, upon y^e^. Coasts, in y^e^. same Letters Patents mencon'd as the said Comp^a^. should from time to time direct or appoint, which said Court should consist of one Person learned in the Civill Lawes, and two Merch^ts^. which said Persons & such Officers of the said Court as should be thought necessary to be nominated and appointed from time to time, by y^e^. Gov^r^. or Dep^ty^. Gov^r^. and Court or the Major part of them; and which said Persons learned in the Civill Lawes, and Two Merch^ts^. or y^e^. Major part of them, whereof the said Person learned in y^e^. Civill Law to be one, should have Commission and Power to hear & determine all Cases of forfeitures, and Seizures of any Ship or Ships, Goods & Merchandize, trading and coming upon any the said Coasts or Limitts, contrary to the Intent of y^e^. same Letters Patents, and of y^e^. said first recited L^res^. Patents of the said late King Charles y^e^. Second therein mencon'd, and also all causes Mercantile or Maritime, Bargains Buyings, Sellings, Bartering of Wares whatsoever, and all Policies and Acts of Assurance and all Bills Bonds and Promises for Payment of money, or Mercantile or trading Contracts all Chre-Partyes or trading Contracts for affreighting of Vessels, & wages of Mariners, and all other Mercantile or Maritime Cases whatsoever, concerning any Person or Persons, residing coming or being in the places aforesaid; and all cases of Trespasses, Injuryes & Wrongs done & committed, upon the High Sea, or in any of y^e^. Regions and Territoryes, Countries or Places therein for that purpose mencon'd, concerning any Person or Persons, residing being or coming in the parts of Asia, Affrica, & America, within the bounds and limitts therein mencon'd; all which cases shall be adjudged and determined by the said Court, upon due examinacon and proof, according to the Rules of Equity and good Conscience and according to the Lawes and Customes of Merchants, by such Methods and Rules of Proceedings as y^e^. same late King should, from time to time, direct and appoint, either under his Great Seal or Privy Seal: And for Want of such direccon, and until such direccon should be made, by such wayes and means as by the Judges of the said Court, should in their best Judgments & discretions, think meet and just, whether it be by a Summary way or otherwise, according to the Exigency of severall cases that should be brought in Judgment before them: And all Judgments Determinacons and Decrees made in the said Court were to be put in writing, and signifyed to the Persons that were present at the making of the same, and should contain a short state of the matter of fact, as it appeared to them, and their Sentence and adjudication thereupon, as in and by the said L^res^. Patents, bearing date at Westminster y^e^. 9^th^ day of August aforesaid, Relation being thereunto had, amongst divers other grants powers, liberties, Priviledges & Clauses therein contained may more fully and at large appear.

And whereas We are given to understand that several Persons contrary to and in contempt of y^e^. First recited L^res^. Patents, and the Royall Pleasure of our said dearly beloved Brother thereby declared, have of late years presumed without the Licence of the said Gov^r^. and Comp^a^. to send out severall Ships and to trade traffique and adventure by way of merchandize into and from, the said East Indies, and the Coasts and places within the Bounds and Limitts, within the said Charters comprised, not only to the very great dammage of y^e^. said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. & y^e^. great interruption, and hindrance of their Affairs and Trade, into & from the said East Indies, but also to the manifest hazard of the ruin of y^e^. said Gov^r^. and Company, and y^e^. utter destruction of all that trade; Whereupon, our trusty and well beloved Subjects, y^e^. said Gov^r^. and Comp^a^. of Merchants of London, trading into y^e^. East Indies, have humbly besought Us to grant and confirm to them, & their Successors, all the said Charters or Letters Patents, with some Addiccons tending to the Support and advancement of their Colonyes Trade and Traffique: Now know Yee That We taking y^e^. Premises into our Royall consideration, and well weighing how highly it imports the honour and welfare of this Realm & of our good Subjects thereof, That all disorders and inconveniencies befalling the said Comp^a^. should be redressed, and to endeavour the utmost improving of that trade, and being fully satisfyed that the same cannot be maintain'd, and carried on to nationall advantage, but by One Generall Joynt Stock,

and that a loose and Generall trade will be the ruin of the whole; and being also satisfyed that the said trade hath been mannaged by y^e^. said Gov^r^. and Comp^a^. to y^e^. honour & Proffit of this Nation, And being desirous that y^e^. said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. may be incouraged in their difficult and hazardous trade and adventures, in those remote parts of the world, and may have all lawfull Assistance from Us to promote y^e^. same, Have of our especiall grace certain knowledge and mere motion, ratifyed & confirm'd, & by these presents for Us our Heirs and Success^rs^. doe ratify & confirm unto our said Trusty and Wellbeloved Subjects, the Gov^r^. & Company of Merch^ts^. of London trading into y^e^. East Indies, & their Success^rs^. for ever, All the said Charters and Letters Patents, and all & Singular the Rights Grants, Libertyes, Covenants ffranchises Preheminences and Authorities, in all y^e^. said Charters or any of them comprised, as fully to all Intents and purposes, as if every distinct Right Grant Power, Liberty Covenant ffranchise Preheminence and Authority comprised in the same Letters Patents, were herein recited, and hereby confirmed separately and apart by it self. Notwithstanding any Non-user Misuser, or Abuser of y^e^. Premises, hereby confirmed or any of them; But nevertheless subject to such condic̃ons, limitac̃ons and Provisoes, as are contained in the before recited Letters Patents respectively and not otherwise.

And further Wee, for ourselves, our Heirs, and Success^rs^; do hereby give grant constitute, erect and establish unto y^e^. said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. of Merch^ts^. of London trading into the East Indies and to their Succ^rs^. for ever all such, so many, and the like Rights, Libertyes, Priviledges, Jurisdic̃cons, Powers, ffranchises, Courts, and Authorities together w^th^. such Covenants, and subject to such Provisoes, and in such manner and form, to all Intents and Purposes, as y^e^. said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. of Merchants of London trading into the East Indies, ever had or enjoy'd, or might, or ought to have had or enjoy'd, by Force or Vertue of all, or any of the before recited L^res^. Patents, To have and to hold, all and singular y^e^. Premises, unto y^e^. said Gov^r^. and Comp^a^. of Merchants of London trading into y^e^. East Indies, and their Succ^rs^. for evermore.

And further We do for Us our Heirs and Succ^rs^. grant unto y^e^. said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. of Merch^ts^. of London, trading into the East Indies, and their Succ^rs^. that it shall & may be lawfull, at all times hereafter, to and for y^e^. said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. and their Succ^rs^. and their respective Presidents, Agents, and Chiefs, and Councills, in the said East Indies, and the Islands aforesaid, or any three of them, whereof such President, Agent or Chief to be one, to administer to all, or any Person or Persons, wh^ch^. at any Time hereafter shall be imploy'd by y^e^. said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. or their Succ^rs^. within y^e^. Limitts of any of y^e^. Charters aforesaid, such formall and lawfull Oath as is usually administred to, or taken by every Freemen of y^e^. said Comp^a^. And all other formall and lawfull Oaths as shall from time to time, by y^e^. said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. or y^e^. Major part of them present, at any Court of Com^tees^. (whereof y^e^. Gov^r^. or Deputy to be one) be reasonably devised directed or appointed.

And further We do for Us our Heirs & Succ^rs^. by these Presents erect & establish a Court of Judicature to be held at such place, or places, ffort or fforts, Plantac̃ons or ffactories, upon the Coasts before recited, within, y^e^. Limitts of any of the before recited Charters, as the said Company, shall from time to time direct and appoint; which Court shall consist of one Person, learned in y^e^. Civil lawes and two Merch^ts^.; which said Persons and such Officers of y^e^. said Court as shall be thought necessary to be nominated and appointed from time to time, by y^e^. Gov^r^. or y^e^. Dep^ty^. Gov^r^. and Court or y^e^. Major part of them, And which said Person learned in the Civill Law and two Merch^ts^. or y^e^. Major Part of them, whereof y^e^. person learned in the Civill Law to be one, shall have Comission and power to hear and determine all causes of forfeitures, and Seizures of any Ship, or Ships, Goods and Merchandize, trading and coming upon any y^e^. said Coasts or Limitts, contrary to y^e^. Intent of these presents, or of y^e^. first recited Letters Patents, and also all causes, Mercantile or Maritime, Bargains Buyings Sellings Bartering of Wares whatsoever, And all Policyes, and Acts of assurance, all bonds, bills, and

promises for payment of money, or mercantile or trading Contracts, all Charter-partyes or trading Contracts for affreighting of Vessels, and Wages of Mariners, and all other Mercantile, or Maritime cases, or cases of Reprisals of Ships or Goods, for any hurt or dammage done to y^e^. said Comp^a^. by any Person or Persons whatsoever, and all other Maritime Cases whatsoever, concerning any Person or Persons residing, coming or being in y^e^. places aforesaid, And all cases of Trespasses, Injuryes and Wrongs done or committed upon y^e^. High Sea, or in any of the Regions, Territoryes or places aforesaid, within the Limitts of the First recited Letters Patents of the said late King Charles y^e^. Second, concerning any Person or Persons, residing being or coming in y^e^. parts of Asia or Affrica, within y^e^. Bounds and Limitts aforesaid: All which cases shall be adjudged and determined, by the said Court upon due examination, and proof, according to y^e^. Rules of Equity and good conscience, and according to y^e^. Laws and Customs of Merch^ts^. by such Methods and Rules of proceedings, as Wee our Heirs and Succ^rs^. shall from time to time direct and appoint, under the Great Seal or Privy Seal: And for want of such Direccons, and untill such Directions shall be made, by such wayes and means as by the Judges of the said Court shall in their best Judgments and Discretions think meet and just, whether it be by a summary way or otherwise, according to y^e^. Exigency of severall cases, that shall be brought in Judgment before them; and all Judgm^ts^. Determinacons and Decrees made in the said Court are to be put in writing, and signifyed to the persons that were present at y^e^. making of y^e^. same, and shall contain a short state of y^e^. Matter of Fact, as it appeared to them, and their sentence and adjudication thereupon. And further whereas the said late King Charles y^e^. Second by his said Letters Patents, bearing date y^e^. 9^th^. day of August aforesaid, did amongst other things grant, that y^e^. said Gov^r^. deputy Gov^r^. and Court of the said Comp^a^. for the time being, or y^e^. major part of them, duely assembled, should have full power Licence and Authority, to name and appoint Gov^rs^. and Officers, from time to time, in the fforts, Factoryes and Plantacons therein mencon'd; which said Gov^rs^. and Officers should have full Power Licence and Authority to raise arm Train and Muster such Military forces, as to them should seem requisite & necessary, & to exercise and use within the same Plantacons Forts & places, the law called y^e^. Martial Law; which said powers, licences and authorityes last recited; Wee do for Us, Our Heirs and Succ^rs^. hereby confirm, and grant to y^e^. said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. full power Licence & Authority to use, exercise and enjoy, as well within y^e^. said Island Saint Helena, and on their ffort of Pryaman, on y^e^. West Coast of Sumatra, as in all other their fforts, ffactories and Plantacons, which now are, or hereafter shall be, within y^e^. limitts of their severall recited Charters aforesaid.

AND FURTHER whereas We are also given to understand that many of the Native Princes and Gov^rs^. of India, and other Nations, taking opportunity from y^e^. Divisions, distractions or rebellions, amongst the English, occasioned by the late licentious trading of Interlopers, have of late violated many of the Comp^as^. Priviledges, surpriz'd their Servants, Ships and Goods, besieged their ffactoryes invaded their Libertyes, and many other Wayes, without just cause, greately endammaged and abused their Chiefs and ffactors to the dishonour of y^e^. English Nation in those Parts of the World; for which Injuryes and damages, the said Comp^a^. intend to demand and procure satisfaction in a peaceable way, if in that manner it be attainable, and if not, then the said Company intend to endeavour the Recovery of their losses and dammages, and to procure their Satisfaction by force of Arms, wherein they will have occasion to use their Ships in a warlike manner; and have thereupon humbly besought Us that in time of Warr, or actuall hostility with any Nation in y^e^. East Indies, they may use and exercise the Law, commonly called the Law Martial, as well in their Ships, as in any their Plantacons, Forts and Places within the limitts of their respective Charters aforesaid, for defence of their said Ships, against any foreign Enemy or domestick Insurrection, Rebellion or Disorder; Wee doe therefore for Us, our Heirs and Succ^rs^. further give and grant full power

Licence and Authority, to y^e^. said Gov^r^. Dep^ty^. and Court of y^e^. said Comp^a^. for y^e^. time being, or the Major Part of them duly assembled, to name and appoint Admiralls, Vice Admiralls, Rear Admiralls, Captains and other Sea Officers, from time to time, in all or any Ship or Ships serving y^e^. said Comp^a^. in the said East Indies, within the Limitts of any of y^e^. above recited Charters; which said Admiralls, Vice Admiralls, Rear Admiralls, Captains & other Sea Officers, shall have, and by these Presents, Wee doe for Us, our Heirs and Succ^rs^. give them hereby, full power Licence Commission and Authority, to raise, arm, train and muster, such Number of Seamen, or other Military Souldiers, as to them shall seem necessary, on board their respective shipps, or as they shall be ordered and directed, by the said Gov^r^. and Comp^a^., or their Succ^rs^. or y^e^. Captain Gen^ll^. of y^e^. English in India, appointed or to be appointed by y^e^. said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. and to execute and use within their Ships on y^e^. other side of the Cape of Good Hope, in time of open Hostility with some other Nation, the Law, called the Law Martial, for defence of their Ships against the Enemy; reserving nevertheless to Us our Heirs and Successors, liberty to revoke and disannul this power and Authority of exercising Martiall Law in y^e^. Ships serving y^e^. said Comp^a^. in the East Indies, whenever it shall seem meet or Convenient to Us our Heirs or Success^rs^. to abridge alter or disanull the same, by any Writing to the said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. signifying our Royall will and pleasure for so doing, under our Privy Signett or Sign Manuall.

And further Wee do for Us, our Heirs and Succ^rs^. hereby give and grant, unto the said Gov^r^. and Comp^a^. their Succ^rs^. & Assigns for ever, full power Licence and Authority to coyn in their forts any Species of Money usually coyned by the Princes of those Countryes only, and so as the Monyes to be coyned by y^e^. said Company, or their Order, be agreeable to the Standards of the said Princes Mints, both in weight and fineness; and that they doe not make, or Coyn any European Money, or Coyn whatsoever; and that all Money or Coynes, so to be coyned as aforesaid, and not otherwise, shall be current in any City Town, Port or place, within y^e^. Limitts of the same Charters, or Letters Patents.

And further Wee hereby will & strictly charge and command, all and Singular our Admiralls, Vice Admiralls, Justices, Mayors, Sheriffs, Escheators, Constables, Bailiffs, and all and Singular other Our Officers, Ministers, Liegemen and Subjects whatsoever, to be aiding, favouring, helping and assisting to the said Gov^r^. and Comp^a^. and to their Success^rs^., and to their Deputyes, Officers, ffactors, Servants, and Assigns, and every of them, in executing and enjoying the Premises, as well on land as on Sea, from time to time, when they or any of them shall thereunto be required.

And lastly, our Will and pleasure is, and Wee do by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs & Successors, grant unto the said Gov^r^. and Comp^a^. of Merch^ts^. of London, trading into the East Indies, and their Succ^rs^. that these our Letters Patents, and all and singular y^e^. clauses and grants herein contained shall be and continue sufficient and available in the Law, and shall be construed and taken, as well to the Meaning and Intent, as to the words of the same, most graciously and favourably, for the best advantage, & benefitt of the said Gov^r^. and Company, and their Successors; althô express mention of the true yearly Value, or certainty of the premisés, or any of them, or of any other gifts or grants, by Us or by any other of our Progenitors or Predecessors heretofore made to the said Gov^r^. and Company, and their Succ^rs^. in these presents, or in the Petition for the same be not made, or any Statute, Act, Proclamation, or Restriccon, or any other thing to the Contrary thereof, in any wise notwithstanding.

In Witness whereof, Wee have caused these Our Letters to be made Patents. Witness ourself at Westminster y^e^. 12^th^. day of April in y^e^. Second Year of our reign.

By Writ of Privy Seal.

Pigott.

LETTER FROM THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR TO FORT ST. GEORGE, DATED APRIL 14, 1686. RECEIVED APRIL 11, 1687. PER LOYALL CAPTAIN. [*Public Despatches from England Vol.* 8, *p.* 25.]

LONDON THE 14TH APRIL 1686.

OUR PRESIDENT & COUNCIL
AT FORT ST. GEORGE

Wee have thought fitt for the better Government of our Garrison of Pryaman, or such other place where our settlem^{t}. shall be on the West Coast of Sumatra to appoint Mr. Ralph Ord to be Judge of the Admiralty Court there, and to that end have caused the enclos'd Commission to be drawn up, which you may send him by the first opportunity.

Mr. Ord ordred Judg of ye. Admiralty Court at Priaman.

The agreement Wee have made with the souldiers, that come on the Rebecca and Loyall Captain is also enclosed, with a Paper from the Accomptant Generall, to which Wee referr you, and commending you to y^{e} protec̃on, of the Almighty Wee remain.

Souldiers agreemt sent yu. Inclosed.

Your very loving Friends,
Jos^{h} CHILD
Dep^{ty}.

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT S^{T}. GEORGE, DATED JUNE 9, 1686. RECEIVED MAY 6, 1687. PER ROYAL JAMES. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 8, *pp.* 29—37.]

LONDON y^{e}. 9th JUNE 1686.

OUR PRESIDENT & COUNCIL
AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

1. We shall now give a deliberate answer to all your letters, by the Amoy and Bengall Merchants, w^{ch}. last (through Gods blessing) arrived the Downes the 28th past.

Bengall Mercht. arived ye. Downes ye. 28th May '86.

2. Your promise to cashire and punish all wicked & debauch't persons, we expect the performance of, and for coyning of Rupees now you have herewth. Copy of Our present Gracious Sovereigns Patent for coyning (w^{ch} we never had before) you may do it for our own Territories and Pryaman, without leave of the King of Gulcondah, and when our affaires are settled in the Bay, we hope to obtain an article, that our Rupees coyned at ffort St. George shalbe current in all parts of the Mogulls dominions.

Expect you [to punish] all wicked and debauchd. persons [you may] coyn rups. for your. [parts and Pryaman] and wee hope you hereafter may alsoe for the Bay.

3. It wilbe a great and nac̃onall advantage, if you can gett good and cheap hempen Canvas made there, according to your purpose, w^{ch}. we would not have you forgett.

Gett good cheap Hempen Canvass made in ye. Bay.

4. We must desire you hereafter to be more cautious of using your Witts in making difficulties where there is none, as you doe with respect to the Jews carrying their moneys to the mines, as you seem to inferr, whither you will or no, w^{ch}. we will not allow, And therefore if any Jew or English man or other wth. in our priviledges shall offer to carry any money to the mines, when you by consultac̃on, shall conclude it for the publick good, not to do so, We would have you not onely banish such p̃son out of our Territory, and deprive them of our Priviledges, but to stay the next money that comes consigned unto them in the Comp^{as}. cash untill they shall have made satisfac̃on for such a publick nusance, but in whatever you do of this kind, be alwaies generous and impartiall, not giving leave to or conniving at any underhand, while you openly prohibite others.

That noe Jews or any other persons whatever be p̃mitted to carry mony to ye. [mynes] undr. penalty of having their consignements or Estates put into ye. Compas. Cash till satisfaction be made.

Keling to be Continued [Chief] at Tonqueen, Mr. Tash or Mr. Hodge's not to be [resettled.]

5. The south sea factories are now indeed under y^r. managem^t. and we will continue them so, but we absolutely [forbid you] from displacing Our Chief M^r. Keeling at Tonqueen, or resetling Mr. Tash, or Mr. Hodges there, who have unworthily [mutinyed against] their Chief that has lived near 20 years in that place, and whom we have never found [unfaithfull, but] rather believe they malign him for his Integrity to us.

Mr. Mohun to have no tytle or Cheifship in ye. Compas. service nor any countenence to be showne to any save those who have faithfully serv^d. ye. Compay.

6. To M^rs. Mohun we have been kinder here, then ever her husband did deserve when in our service, whose taking [70] bales out of our warehouses in the night whi[le he was] Chief of Metchlepatam, and [cu]tting out the Comp^as. marks we can never forget thô we may forgive, he having made the value of them since good to us, but we will not trust him any more nor allow you to give him any [title] of Our Chief, whereby our servants of Suratt & other places may be ensnared to entrust him again to their [losse], and we must desire you hereafter, not to show y^r. [countenance] so much to men that you know have greatly [wronged us,] rather lett yo^r. favours run w^th. a full Curr^t. to those [y^t have] been alwayes faithfull to us, for it is an easy and comon thing for men, after they are out of an employment, to give good words and indulge our Chiefs by personall kindnesses, that they may gett again into our service, and then do us 7 times more mischief then they did before.

Tywan not to be [re]-settled.

7. Tywan is good for nothing now, and we will not have you settle any ffactory there again.

Amoy to be settled at on good termes.

8. Amoy may produce an excellent trade if we can have good terms there.

King of Syam Indebted to ye. Compay, £35,000 w^ch. is to be recoverd by ye. Generall. by fair means or foul and noe treaty or agreement to be made with them by our. servt^s. of Fort St. George. [. . .] away by Co. servaut Jvat.

9. Syam by injuries wrongs & debts owing & done to us by (and by the influence of) that ungratefull wicked man Phaulcon isiin our debt 35,000 £ [sterl^g] w^ch. we have ordered our Generall of Suratt to receive from that King and his subjects by force of Arms, if the King do not fairly make Us satisfaccon, And therefore We have ordered O^r. General of Suratt to withdraw our ffactors from thence, and we require you to settle no more ffactors there, nor to [meddle] further in that business of Syam, by way of any new treaty or agreement, but to leave that matter intirely to our General of Suratt, because there has been such mutuall kindnesses between you and Phaulcon, w^ch. we do not like, and worse, that you should permitt his Agent and our wicked servant Jvat, to entice English men from the ffort to serve the King of Syam.

The way to make our King and selves formidable and powerfull in India is to levy Dutys with lessr igour than the Dutch doe. The duty of Powder to be abated to small vessels as shall be awarded in Council, but not [anchore]

10. We are very willing to hear your advices in all things but must desire you not to impose yo^r. Judgment upon us, nor to act according to your own fancies [ ] against our express orders as you do in not [levying the Duty] of anchorage & powder upon all ships, upon a pretence they will leave the place, because they will not pay one [Dollar] anchorage, pray do not here[after indeavour] to affright us from our reall Interest [with such] little scare Crow's, neither fright us any longer from improving our tonnage from Bengall to the ffort with provisions for fear Lingapa wilbe angry while we know what yo^r. own ships and others bring up from thence, and do as little fear Lingapa's anger, as we do Phaulcons, you see what a mighty charge we are at to advance the English Interest and make this Company a formidable Martiall governm^t. in India w^ch. formerly the Dutch despised as a parcel of meere trading merchants or Pedlars as they used to miscall us, and if we will make Our King & this Kingdom great & powerfull in India we must levy Duties as they do, or else make a noise in the world for 6 or 7 years in [con]suming the Companies Stock, & then fare[wel] the English trade in India And therefore We must again intreat you, not to sett yo^r. faces nor your minds against so good & necessary a worke for y^e. honor of yo^r. King & Country, w^ch. must be done by you or by others, althô we have no dispositõn to change hands if we can avoid it, & you will vigorously cooperate with us to obtain in some measure the Dutch wisdom

of governing in India, but in a gentler manner than they do, and for the barrell of powder, if that prove too heavy for some Country poor small ships of strangers, you may quallify that according to yo^{r}. discretions, but the Dollar for anchorage We will not have abated to any ship whatsoever.

11. If it were but one thing tending to encrease the Comp^{as}. revenue that you did haesitate upon or argue wth. us We should the lesser wonder at it, but that y^{ou} should fence & capitulate about every method proposed for so necessary a worke, looks too much like your being inspired by some discontented persons here, that like not your present Conduct and would have been glad to see us emerged in those difficulties we laboured under [the last four] years, out of w^{ch}. God Almighty has been gracious[ly pleased] to deliver [us].

not one thing we propose tending to ye. advance of ye. compas. revenue is approved of by you wch. creates a suspition if you are inspired by some male-contents [. . .].

12. This [pro & con between us & you w^{ch}. was begun by S^{r}.] W^{m}. Langhorne, ended with [M^{r}. Master] and is now revived on this subject, will never end well, pray lett [us have no more of it] and, all shalbe well for what is past; & not only [so, but if we] propound any duty or tax to be levied w^{ch}. in [your Judgement's] is not convenient, We shall leave it to you, [to lay that a side] or mitigate it, provided you raise some other [equivalent] more suitable and convenient in yo^{r}. own opinions, but a revenue we will have there aliquô modô for y^{e}. infinite charge we have been at to raise that Town (w^{ch}. hereafter we shall call a City) from so despicable a Condicon as it was in when we setled there. Your good parts & experience imployed in this worke we know may effect much with facility, as on the contrary you may secretly & slyly hinder it for a tyme while you are in place (if you please) but you shall never do it finally, no more than did our weak, good natured, but honest Gov^{r}. of S^{t}. Helena. We think it will not be safe to adventure the John & Mary home, & therefore have advised the owners to make sale of her in India.

noe more arguments pro and con to [be . . .] had on you and ye. compy. but what ever taxes we order to be levied if not consonant into yo^{r}. Judgments than other more agreable to your constitutions to be Imposed by you for such revenues we will have [. . .] contradiccon.

Madras to be called a city, John and Mary to be sould.

13. All that you have done at Sumatra and in relacon to that busines We do very well approve of, and have seconded that worthy attempt, with sending 500 land soldiers thither and the ships Herbert, Rose, Rainbow, Royall James and Berkley Castle, w^{ch}. may encourage you, and those that are to pay our Revenues at ffort St. George, since you see we have courage to spend our own so freely for the publick good and for posterity, the consequence of which great charge even at Sumatra will as much redound to the benefitt of our Inhabitants of ffort St. George as to the Company.

The Sumatrian Transactions very well approv'd of 500 men and 5 shipps sent thither.

14. The Presidents not sending Mr. Whitby to the Bay is a matter of no great moment [thô] of an ill kind, and we must desire you not to make that a practice to disobey our Orders & write Us that you will obey them 2 years hence, when you have our answer if Wee please, pray let us have as little of that as you can, for Wee [do not like it] being of ill Example.

Mr. Whitby's not being sent to ye. Bay of noe great moment but such procedure of disobeying our orders to be stopped.

15. ffor more certainty in Gold, Wee are erecting a melting house in our own Garden, wherein wee resolve to melt all our Ingott Gold, by w^{ch}. wee shall see where y^{e}. cheat is hereafter.

A melting house in ye. East India house garden to be erected for melting Ingott.

Insurance not dis [believ'd].

16. Wee do not take amiss your proposition for Insurance But we will not concern the Comp[as]. stock therein.

Mr. Heathfield being addmitted as factor. and Mr. Baxter Writer not approved off.

17. Wee observe you have taken in Mr. Heathfield for a ffact[r]. and Mr. Baxter for a Writer, and Wee observe who are propounded for securities, pray hereafter take no more into our service, without our own Order, Except it be upon absolute & unavoidable necessity, for want of English hands to doe our necessary business for Wee like not those men, that come by chance into Our service, or it may be on design, were sent on purpose by some here, that are none of our best friends, nor intend y[m]. for any of o[r]. best serv[ts].

Wee take notice of the Dutch Protests, but as Wee will doe them no wrong, so Wee are not afraid of them, nor will put up any wrong from them hereafter, but hold our own, with or against their Wills.

The encrease of free shipps depending on ye. success of those already come out.

18. The encrease of free ships will depend upon y[e]. success of those of that kind, that went out this year, which Wee hope may be to y[e]. Owners satisfaction, and of advantage to the Comp[as]. affairs.

The disposure of our. Shipps to ye Bay approved of w[ch]. is since altered by advises fr. Bewfort.

19. Your disposition of Our ships, and all your advices to y[e]. Bay, Wee do well approve of, as y[e]. times & circumstances then were, which now you know are alter'd by our last Orders sent you by y[e]. Beaufort & Rochester, w[ch]. We will pursue to y[e]. utmost of our Power.

Mr. Samll. Barroon noe servt. of our. and ye mony paid him to be [repaid by you] into our cash: and he to live as a free merch[t].

20. Mr. Samuel Barron is no servant of Ours but [a] deserter, the history whereof is too long to tell you, so we require you to pay back the money you have paid him into our Cash, but let him live if he pleases, as a free merchant at y[e]. ffort, but not at our table or charge, and pray hereafter be not so free of our Purse, nor believe any body in our business but our selves.

an early ship and Souldiers to be sent y[e]. year.

21. Wee shall send you a good supply of souldiers and money by an early ship this year.

Agent allow[d] to take saylors out of any ship.

22. Wee shall allow Our Agent and Council in y[e] Bay, to take out of any of Our ships such seamen, as they think [are sober &] fitt for the Comp[as]. service there.

Mr. Joseph Lee being kept at y[e]. fort no [. . . .] off.

23. Your keeping Mr. Joseph Lee at the ffort contrary to our Order is not an indifferent thing [to Us], as you say, it [tends to an ill] habitt of breaking orders at Discretion, which can never consist with any good Governmn[t], nor ought ever to be done by you, but in case of absolute Necessity, or some pregnant apparent dammage, y[t]. would happen to y[e]. Comp[a] if you did it not, and peradventure you may doe it at y[e]. Instance of some of his friends here, & then our servants are placed not according to Our minds, but some forreign inclination of Wee know not who, nor for what Purpose, By their good wills all our Pet[rs] for Employment would go to ffort St. George, w[ch] when Wee see cause to deny here, it is an irregular disorderly presumption for you to grant there.

Bugess & Macassar Souldiers to be sent to Fort St. George a mixture of several [being most secure] for our Governm[t].

24. Wee have order'd Our Gov[r]. etc. of Pryaman to send you some Maccassar & Buggess souldiers from thence, as he can meet with or spare them, or of any other Cast different from those you usually have at ffort St. George, such mixtures of Casts, and Ballancing of Interests being y[e]. only means, by which y[e]. Dutch keep so much of India, in obedience to their Authority, w[ch] wise rule you must observe in all our Garrisons.

Fort Generall. of ye 6[th] Augt. answered as follows.

25. Wee are now come to yours of y[e]. 6[th] August & 9[mo] October rec[d]. by y[e]. Bengall, in y[e]. former Wee find nothing unreplyd to.

26. Your complaint of want of money and too many ships is well grounded, if you consider our affairs under y^e^ ancient peaceable way before they were disturb'd by y^e^ Interlopers, & y^e^ Dutches designs against Us in Bengall, unto which two Partyes Wee look upon the Mogulls Gov^rs^. but as Instruments Which Wee hope to compell by fair means or foul to use us better hereafter.

many shipps and want mony occationed by ye disturbances yt. [. . .] and Interlopers have given us of late.

27. You say trade is y^e^ only way of raising a considerable revenue and who is so weak as to think otherwise, and who ever did since the world began indulge trade so much in any port of India, as Wee have done in that, and are yet doing, But with your leaves Wee will have a ground, or quitt rent yearly for every house within your Precincts and a small [Pole] money for every head as the Dutch have at Battavia, thô less than one fourth Part of what they take, (where no freedom of trade is allow'd) shall satisfy Us, where the greatest freedom of all trade is allow'd that ever was known in India, and our Customs Wee will have to be there 5 ℔ Cent, in kind, and in all other our fortifyed places in India, and this Wee know is just and so moderate, that it can meet with no ill successe, If those in the front of Our business do not underhand obstruct the Companys most necessary progress towards a Revenue, without which it's impossible to make y^e^ English nation's station sure and firm in India, upon a sound Politicall Basis, and w^th^.out which Wee shall alway's continue in y^e^ state of meer merch^ts^. subject to be turn'd out at y^e^ Pleasure of the Dutch & [abused] the discretion of the Natives, as Wee have been shamefully & dishonourably for many years together.

quitt rent for houses, pole mony, custome 5 pr cent to be duly [allowed] for ye advance of our. revenue ye Dutch being therein a pattern [for us, etc.]

28. Wee had sent you more stock & less shipping last year But for 2 reasons, the one is y^e^ uncertainty whether we shall have any trade in y^e^ Bay or not, the other y^e^. great Probability that you might have vast quantities of Pepper from Sumatra, which would go far towards the loading of our ships, without any great stock, and if you should not be permitted trade in the Bay, Wee have reason to believe you will find our stock sufficient, and our ships sent you rather too few than too many.

The reason of sending many shipps and small stock was from ye hopes wee had yt. you might have large qties pepper from the west coast to fill up our tonnage.

29. Wee expect (as you say) You should gett the Black Town walled in, but not at sixpence charge to Us.

The black towne to be walled in but without charge.

30. Wee will have no ffactory settled for Us at Pegu, nor at Quedah, nor any of those little places where we cannot bring our great ships, wherefore We require you to engage us in no such design or Charge, without our own Order and Intimation, which Wee know where and when to give you, clearly for y^e^ Companies Interest, unmix'd with any self concern of yours, which are apt to byass insensibly y^e^ minds and Judgments even of good men some times.

Noe Factorys to be settled at Pegu or Queda or any other little place without [Imediate] order.

31. Wee wonder you should offer to lead Us to a destructive settlement at Syam, at the Instigation of Mr. Coats, whom Wee [know,] and you [better] to be an Intire Creature of ffaulcons.

[By ye instiga of Mr. Coats] we are advised by you to a destructive settlement at Syam

32. Your endeavour to encrease y^e^ Plantation of Pepper near you, is a most commendable design, and Wee would have you encourage it notwithstanding We are [sure of] sufficient quantities from Sumatra.

To have a pepp^r^. Plantacn. near you Encouragd Exce. not to be Encreased above ℔ to ye pagoda

33. Wee shall not encrease our Exchange above 9^s^ ℔ [Pagoda].

34. Wee will have none of those Persons (settled in China by our Gen^ll^. at Bombay) remov'd or displaced, w^th^out our own Orders.

Noe person settled by ye Generall to be removed.

Mr. Beard's death lamented & Mr. Charnock confirmed successor and ould councll to remaine. [Mr. Potts] his being entertained well approd. off.

35. Wee are extreamly sorry for y^e^ Death of Agent Beard, a man entirely faithfull to our Interest, and wee do approve of the succession of M^r^. Charnock to that Agency, and will have our Council there remain the same it was at y^e^. Death of M^r^. Beard untill o^r^.selves shall give further order therein.

36. Wee very well approve of your entertaining M^r^. Potts thinking him to be y^e^. faithfullest of all those we employ'd formerly at Syam.

37. Wee shall allow no Interest for y^e^. Depositt made for M^r^. Winn it being sufficient that We preserve dead mens Estates safe for their Exec^rs^. & pay y^m^. that have legall power to receive it at y^e^. first dem^d^.

Engiens to [freshen] salt water [to be sent] to Priam^n^. by Berkely Castle.

Wee shall send 2. or 3 Engines to make salt water fresh and corrupt fresh water wholsom to Pryaman by y^e^. new Berkeley Castle.

800 pagodas pd. to clear ye. Black Merchants. Imprisoned by Lingapa disallowed off, as likewise ye. 15 pags. to Peter Dod. ye. 30 pagodas to ye Amoy Doctor. and ye. 600 pagods. Lent ye. Syam Embassadr. at respondentia likewise disallowd. off. Good Husbandry to be a pattern of regularity to other subords.

38. Wee have perused your Cash book as well as we could in so short a time, & think you have been too liberall of our money, in paying 300 Pag^s^. for y^e^. black merch^ts^. imprison'd by Lingapa, w^ch^. rather should have been wholly defray'd by Vincatadry &c^a^., and if by Us 300 Pag^s^. is a great deal too much for 2 black fellows Expenses, so is 15 Pag^s^. to Peter Dod for charges of sending a present to Pegu, which Wee never order'd to be sent thither, and very unreasonable is 30 Pag^s^. to y^e^. Doctor of the Amoy Merch^t^. for Physick given Clement Dujardin, which was out of y^e^. ships Chest, & if to any, should honestly have been paid y^e^. Captain for y^e^. Owners Use, as displeasing to Us is your Payment of 600 Pag^s^. to y^e^. King of Syams Embassador at Respondentia, without our Order, and other summs of that kind; Wee shall Expect you will be better husbands, & keepe closer to our Orders hereafter, as well considering our present great charge, as to sett a pattern of Regularity to others, that those Wee have made subordinate to you, may keep closer to your Orders, and our business may be mannag'd with Punctuall regularity, and not in such a loose lax manner as it hath been, not but y^t^. Wee shall, & it's [convenient] for our service to leave very much to your discretions, in cases of unforeseen Emergency, but in the Gen^ll^. Course of our busyness, keep alwayes strictly to our rules and orders, that you may acquire habitts to yo^r^.selves, and teach others the practice of obedience, the most essential requisite to all wise Governments.

Much of the Comp^s^. concerns to be left to y^e^. managing of their servants but their orders to be strictly observed in y^e^. Generall course of their business.

Mr. Mountague Entertaind for 3 years to serve ye. Comp^y^. at Priaman at £30 pr. annum sallary but if comes to ye. fort is to have but £15 pr. ann^m^.

We have entertain'd M^r^. Edmond Mountague (who formerly serv'd us in the South Seas) to be our ffactor for 3 years, and of our Council at Pryaman, or such other places, where our Chief M^r^. Ord shall settle at the sallary of £30 ℔ Ann^m^., But if upon his arrivall there he shall desire to remove to Fort S^t^. George, they are to permitt him so to doe, where he is to receive only £15 ℔ Ann^m^. Sallary.

The Comp^s^. servts. private shipps to be consigned to Presid^t^.

Forasmuch as great Inconveniencies have arisen in the Bay of Bengall, and other Places by our own ffactors & ffreemen consigning ships & Goods to obscure Persons, & Masters of Ships and Supracargoes not in our service, We doe from henceforth Enjoyn & require, all Persons under us, that in their particular trading

and Commerce in India, they do consign their ships & Goods, in all Ports, where the Company have any ffactors, primarily to our President, Agent or Chief, and one of y^e^. Councill there, and to one or more of the Exporters Correspondents, in any of the said Places, and no other. Agent, Chief or some of Councll. in ye. place.

43. And whereas our Presid^t^. at his going from hence took the Oath of a ffreeman, as we & all y^e^. Adventurers in y^e^. Gen^ll^. Joynt Stock have done, We therefore think it requisite, & accordingly do direct, y^t^. you administer y^e^. same Oath unto all our ffactors entertained in India, y^t^. have not before taken y^e^. same Oath here, y^t^. are below y^e^. Council, And to y^e^. writers employ'd in our service befor they be further intrusted in y^e^. management of our affaires So commending you & our affairs to y^e^. Guidance of the Almighty We remaine The oath of a freeman to be given to all person in our^r^. service y^t^. have not taken it.

Yo^r^. very Loving Friends,

JAMES. WARD.	THO. COOKE.	JOS^A^. CHILD, Gov^r^.
HEN. JOHNSON.	JOHN GOODERE.	BEN. BATHURST, Dep^ty^.
GEORGE BOUNE.	NATHA. MOUNTENEY.	RI. STERNE.
ROBERT KNIGHTLEY.	R. HUTCHINSON.	JOHN. CREED.
		ROB^T^. MARSHALL.
		W^M^. SEDGWICKE.

GENERAL LETTER FROM FORT ST. GEORGE, DATED SEPTEMBER 3, 1686. RECEIVED MARCH 30, 1688. PER OVERLAND. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 41–42.*]

[*This is a duplicate copy of what appears on pp. 212 and 213 of the* DESPATCHES FROM ENGLAND, *1681—1686 with the following addition*]:

"The Instruccons and Charterparty herein menc̃on'd come to you in our letter by the Caesar, whereof this is a Duplicate."

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT S^T^. GEORGE, DATED OCTOBER 22, 1686. RECEIVED JULY 23, 1687. PER WILLIAMSON. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 45–48.*]

OUR PRESID^T^. & COUNCIL AT FFORT ST. GEORGE. LONDON 22^th^ OCTOBER 1686.

With this you have copy of o^r^. former secret letter by the Beaufort & Rochester, which we confirm; requiring you to pursue y^e^ King of Syam & his subjects with open warr, until he has satisfied us for y^e^. injuries formerly done Us, and those lately at Mechlep^a^. by Cap^t^. Coats then in his service; And y^t^ you doe not give over y^e^ warr, until y^e^ said King of Syam has by his Embassado^rs^ made peace with o^r^. Gen^ll^. and Council of India residing at Bombay, or wherever o^r^. Gen^ll^. shall be. And we require you according to his Ma^ty's^. late Proclamac̃on to try all the English by Martial Law, w^ch^. you shall find in y^e^ s^d^. King of Syam's service, or otherwise detain them in close imprisonm^t^. in y^e^ com̃on prison within o^r^. ffort, until o^r^. Judge Advocate shall arrive, whom we intend to dispatch hence by the Williamson, And when this ship is discharged of her outward loading, dispatch her down to y^e^ Bay in ayd of o^r^. friends & interest there, or els to take possession of & build a ffort at Mergee near Tenasseree in y^e^ King of Syam's Country, if you judge we may be able to defend that place Or y^t^ the King of Syam, to make his peace, wilbe content to assign it to Us & o^r^. successors for ever, on y^e^ same terms you made with y^e^ Orankeys of Pryaman: In w^ch^. case, notwithstanding what we have writt before, you may for yo^r^ parts make peace with him, & promise y^t^ y^e^ Gen^ll^. of Suratt shall issue forth noe more Commissions ag^t^ him, but recall those y^t^ are abroad as soon as you give him notice y^t^ we are setled and fortified in y^e^ said town of [Mergee we say] setled & fortified, because we will not trust [any natives] especially those influenced by such a man as [Constant Phaulcon], until we have o^r^. Guns mounted [and] are in a condic̃on to defend our selves.

[Orders] to pśue ye King of Syam with warr till [. . .] fully satisfied for ye. past & Late Injury. done at Syam [. . .] not to conclude till a peace is sued for and concluded by Do. Kings Embasdrs. The English who serve ye King of Syam be tryd by marl. law or Imprisond in y Compa goal till [arrivll] of Judge Advocate

Noe force at Mergee to Resist our shipping yet 50 soul'diers to be sent to maintaine ye place.

We are well informed by Mr. Geo. White & Captain Cook, y^t there is noe power at Mergee, to resist one Ships company; & y^t the People there are a sheepish cowardly people, like yo^r. Gentues, w^{ch}. will not fight. However we think it's necessary, for y^e more certainty of keeping what we get, y^t you should send 50 Soldiers English & Portuguez with the Williamson, to be under y^e comand of whomsoever you appoint Chief of that place, if you resolve to proceed upon y^e conquest of it, w^{ch}. we leave to yo^r. discrecons to determine, Not knowing what greater use you may have for ships or Soldiers in the Bay or elswhere, But y^t you may have an easy entrance upon that place, if you resolve to proceed to y^e conquest of it, We have procured his Ma$^{ty's}$. Lre to M^r. White & Mr. Burnaby, Unto which we doubt not their giving due obedience, as we believe they would have done to his Ma$^{ty's}$. Proclamacon without this Lre. But they being obliged to y^e King of Syam, we thought ours & their own Sovereign's lre might be y^e more plausible & justifyable excuse to bring them fairly off from y^e King of Syam.

His Majesty's Lettrs. to Mr. White and Burnaby to wch. is added ye Comp's in order to bring them to their Obedience.

We leave you to appoint whom you think fittest, (if you proceed) Gov^r. of Mergee as aforesaid; And Mr. White we do hereby appoint to be second of that Council, intending him here after to be Chief for that place, if his good carriage [in] this business give Us encouragem^t.

To appoynt a Governor of Mergee is left to ye. Presidt. & Councll. of For^t St. George and White to be 2d.

Noe great trade [. . .] out harbg for shipps. [. . .]

We can promise o^{r}selves noe great trade from that place at present for Europe, which is o^r. principal business, But we think it may be an excellent place for raising a Revenue of Customs [&c^a.] upon y^e Moores & Natives y^t frequent that place, and most especially, noe part of India like [it for] fitting & repairing of ships in time of peace or [warr, and plenty] of provisions; And how much we shall [want such a place of resort] for o^r. ships, if we should hereafter [happen to] fall into a warr, you are best able to judge.

Another conjecture we have to leave to your [consideration] which is, whether if we should miss of o^r. design at [Cittegam or] elsewhere in the River of Ganges, this place of Mergee, might not in a litle time (being a cheap Country) be brought (by inviting y^e Natives from Bengala, or bringing them by force, if it be a warr), to fabricate many sorts of these manufactures which we have usually had from Cassumbuzar, and other places in the Bay.

if this shipp be not sent on ye designes above sd. then to be sent to ye west coast.

We have likewise had thoughte, y^t if this ship be not employed on y^e design aforemenconed, y^t the Capt^n. being an ingenuous sober man, she may be a fit ship to send to Pryaman, to erect or further o^r. settlem^t. there, or comence a new settlem^t. near Jehore, of which we have writt much formerly, y^t we shall need to add nothing now, but to tell you, y^t Capt^n. Warner being a wise & good man, well experienced in history, & y^e political affairs of y^e world, we have thought fit to make him of the Council during his stay at ffort St. George, & y^t he have place next after Mr. Littleton while he continues there. We have only in this letter proposed, not determined any thing, because we know not how affairs may stand when this ship arrives.

Notwithstanding what we have herein writt of your endeavouring a settlem^t. & building a ffort at Mergee in the King of Syam's country, either by force or by agreem^t. with him upon making peace with him; yet o^r. chief end is, y^t. it may turn to o^r. profit, by securing o^r. ships there in time of danger by repairing of them when needful, & by raising such a Revenue on y^e. place by y^e. Customes thereof, as may answer fully o^r. charge, But for y^e. trade of y^e. place either in vending of [callicoes] &c^a. to profit, or the returnes thereof in Goods at that place procurable proper for your Coast or y^e Bay, so as to turn to any advantage, We are somewhat dubious it will answer but litle of our charge; And therefore upon the whole matter we leave it to yo^r. consideracon, according as you shall conclude it will answer o^r. designed ends, to proceed in fortifying the said

place or not; And if you shall not, then to proceed in the warr against the King of Syam, till he hath made us full satisfaction of all o[r]. losses and given us such future Articles as may give us freedom of his Port at Tenassaree for the ends aforesaid in peace or warr and otherwaies be advan[tageous] to us in his Dominions by y[e]. privileges y[t]. he [shall grant us] But for Syam itself its worth nothing [nor can he give us] any privileges there y[t]. wilbe worth y[e]. charge of [one factor and] one writer.

Syam it self worth nothing.

So praying God to direct you for the best We rest.

Your loving Friends,

JEREMY SAMBROOKE JOSIA CHILD Gov[r].
JOHN MOORE BENJAMIN BATHURST Dep[ty].

GENERALL LETTER TO FORT S[T]: GEORGE, DATED OCTOBER 22, 1686. RECEIVED JULY 23, 1687. PER WILLIAMSON. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, p. 49–65 (India Office transcript for paras. 1 to 31).*]

SENT ON THE BENGALL VIA SURATT.

OUR PRESIDENT & COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE,

LONDON THE 22[th] OF OCTOBER 1686.

We received yours of the 18th and 22th January, and first of February per Defence and Resolution, who arrived the 16th Ultimo, in company with the Barnardiston from Surratt, for which God be praised. Since arrived the Syam Merchant from Indrapura, with about 100 Tons dead Freight, and 2 Chests of Treasure Contents [blank] and five bales of blew long Cloth, the Purser pretends they came away abruptly, without any Letters from our Factors at Indrapura, because their time for stay in India by Charterparty was expired, and their men fell down so fast, that if they had staid 14 days longer on that Coast, they should not have had hands sufficient to bring home their ship. But we apprehend something more in this matter, then yet appears, because the Seamen were observed at St. Helena to be overfull of money, which they wasted profusely, as we think they did at the Cape likewise, where they stopt, But we shall enquire further into these affaires, before we clear that Ships account.

We recd. yours of 18th & 22th January & 1st February per Resolution &ca. who ariv'd 16th Sept. Since ariv'd the Syam from Indrapura with 100 tons dead freight &ca. Their pretence for coming away was their Charterparty expir'd & their men fell sick so fast. We suspect something more from their lavish waste of money.

2. You do in many paragraphs in the beginning of your Letter of the 18th, endeavouring to impose upon us many fallacies, and cobweb Excuses, for your sending us those Chyna Goods per Royall James, while we know certainly, that your Markets would not take off such a number of Arack or Brandy Cups, all of one Sort and Colour as they were, and at the rates you charge us, in Seaven years, and that your Affidavits are at best but fallacious and evasive, if they be true, and are exprest in such generall words, that they come not up to the Case, well knowing that whatever trifles Mr. Lucas or others might sel at Gulcondah or the Fort, at such rates, those rates could not have been had, if the sending of the Bulk of your Trash to us had not made roome for your selling a few in the Country.

Your excuses for sending the China ware very frivolous, & your affidavits fallacious.

3. Its very true you had our order to buy and send us home China goods, which order you catcht hold of, and instead of buying, sent us your own at excessive rates, not regarding what you put upon us, so you cleared your own account to great profit, and as one sin begets another, you are now put to your Shifts to strain your Witts and your Consciences to invent excuses and evasions of a palpable fault, which there is not one man in your Councill, nor scarce in your Factory, but has witt enough to see you are guilty of, and it had been much

You had indeed our order for China goods, this you abused and must now strain your Consciences for Excuses.

Much better to have confess'd at first and made satisfaction as Mr. Gifford shall doe.

more ingenuous to have confessed it at first, and made reparation to the Company, as you were ordered (and as Mr. Gifford shall when he returns hither) then to have doubled the Offence by your impertinent Apology.

If our loss on China goods be doubted, what excuses can you make for the half hose sent us? Can Mr. Lucas depose he ever saw such worn in England?

4. If what we have said concerning your so hasty making up your China Account to our loss be doubted, Let the witt that invented your delusive excuses give us a reason, if he can, why you sent us those half Hose, or Stockins as you call them, which would scarce reach above a mans Ankles, and some of them had the Clocks, where the Heals or Instip should be. Were those in any of your Judgments a Commodity proper for England, or can Mr. Lucas send us an Affidavit that he ever saw any such wore in this Country? If he do we shall hardly give Credit to it, Because we are Older then he and have never seen such our selves.

Your saying you'l call the China factors to account is too arrogant and what becomes Us, on your bad sorting.

5. Your telling us you will call your China Factors to account is a little too arrogant. It is what becomes us to say, and we sometimes do to our Drapers when they complain of your bad sorting, but we have nothing to doe with our Servants Servants, that is a little below us, tis from yourselves only that we expect reparation and obedience, without which no Government can stand, as we have often told you, and shall continue to change untill we are entirely obeyed, as all wise Governors ought to be, althô for the present, in hopes of better Complyance from you in Generall hereafter, and that such of you as love or honour your superiors whose bread you eat wil never again be induced by any person to set your hands to such querilous Letters. We shall content ourselves with expelling Mr. Thomas Lucas from our Service, which we do hereby upon the receipt of this Letter, requiring you that from and after the receipt of this Letter he have no place or Session in our Council, nor any Sallary or benefitt by our service or imployment under us, military or civill, or habitation or entertainment in our house or Fort, and we do hereby constitute and appoint Mr. John Gray to succeed and be second of our Councill, and Book-keeper, next our intended President, Mr. Elihu Yale, and that Mr. John Littleton be Third of our said Council, and Sorter, Mr. John Nix, removed from being of our Council, he being, according to our former order (which we hereby confirm) to be so removed from our Council, and made our Chief of Madapollam, Mr. Robert Freeman we appoint Fourth of our said Council, Mr. Thomas Wavel Fifth, Mr. Nathaniel Higginson Sixth, and Mr. William Fraser we do hereby appoint Seaventh of our said Council, and Sorter Assistant to Mr. John Littleton, notwithstanding his being last of our said Council.

From you it is we expect full reparation and entire obedience, but in hopes of your Amendment &c.

Shall only at present expell Mr. Lucas from our Service, etc.

Establishment of Council.

Shall yearly send you a price Currant, but China goods soe much differ can give you no certain rule to send them by.

A Project about sending of China Goods a Cargoe.

6. A price Current shalbe sent you every year, but that signifies nothing to Chyna Goods which differ 90 per cent of the same name according to their qualities better or worse, neither can we give you any certain Rule how to send your own Chyna Goods to us, its as hard to give an upright rule in that case as it is unfitt for you to be buyers and sellers both, which we were not aware of when we gave you the former orders, which you made so ill use of, but since it is so, and that we are really willing to further you in all good wayes, we give you leave for the future, if you like this proposition, to send us any intire Cargoe of Chyna Goods proper for Europe Marketts of your own, or your own in company with any Natives, or others, at the first cost in Chyna, to take your satisfaction there out of our Cash, when the Goods are shipt for England (but not before) that you may have your stockes to goe on with again on a new voyage, on this condition, that if the said Chyna Cargoes of yours &c^{a}: make not the said first cost here free of single freight and all Charges, the Adventure of the sea from the Fort hither in such cases shalbe ours, but the loss at home, if any happen upon Sales, shalbe yours respectively according to your severall interests, which must be mentioned particularly in your Letters accompanying your said Consignation of

such Goods to us, and if any gain arise by such Chyna Goods here, 20 per cent of the proffitt thereof shalbe ours in Consideration of our running the hazard of the Sea, generall Charges of the Company, and disbursement aforehand of our money in India, the rest of the gain justly whatever it proves to be shalbe yours and immediately returned you in Dollars by the first ship after the sale of such Chyna Goods here, this we say in times of peace, but if a Dutch war should happen, we shall in time of such war expect 40 per cent of the profitt to the Company for running the Risque &c[a] as aforesaid.

7. We hope you meant well in it, but fatal have been the Consequences of altering your first Instructions to Mr. Ord, Captain Francis Wilshaw, Captain William Heath &c[a], for setling at Pryaman, in the first place, according to the agreement you made with the Orankeys[1], which we shewed the King; to his Majesty's great satisfaction, and accordingly to promote his Majesty's honour and the Kingdomes good, in prosecution of your Advices, and at our own excessive charge, we sent out such a number of warlike ships, Guns, men, and ammunition, as never went to settle any English plantation in India, after all this upon a fantasy of your own not recollecting as you ought to have done, what advices you had sent to us, and how forward we are at this time to promote any publique nationall good, you alter all this scene, to the frustration of the hopes of the King and Kingdome and to the Death and destruction of many brave men, his Majesty's good subjects. We know the hopes of procuring a large quantity of Pepper and finding of a healthfull hill at Bencoolen led you into this snare, but however all men do, and must tax you of great unadvisedness, that you should write to us so plainly and fully of one place and desire us to send great recruits and strength thither, and that afterwards you should send our ships and strength from the Fort to settle at another place, if you say you did not positively order them so to do, we say you did it in effect, in that you directed our Ships first to Syllibar, and left it to their discretion to settle there or elsewhere before they came to Pryaman, which holds no Coherence with what you writt us, before we sent our strength from hence to Pryaman.

Fatal have been the consequences of your not settling at Priaman. Your agreement with the Orankeys being approv'd of by his Majesty, and We having prosecuted it at excessive charge.

All men tax you of folly to write of one place and settle at another.

8. As the case now stands, and if our people can be restored to better health, you may do well to keep those two places of Bencoolen and Indrapura with small Garrisons of English and Topasses, but your main Fort you must yet proceed to build at Pryaman according to the Contract you made with the Orankeyes of that place, and if the Dutch be there, let them stay there still if they will, but that need not hinder us, our agreement being first made, and if they oppose your settlement, you are to resist force with force, for we must be faithfull in that employment his Majesty has trusted us, and leave the event to Gods Providence, well knowing that whenever the pepper trade of India is intirely lost to the Dutch, the whole trade of India is inevitably lost, in consequence thereof.

You may keep small Garrisons at Bencoolen & Indrapura, but Priaman must be the main fort.

The Dutch may stay if they will but if they oppose resist them.

9. Mr. Du Jardin did good service at Indrapura, and we observe his rambling busling Humour suited well with those uncultivated Rajayes, but its plain through the whole course of his Journall that he is not a man to be trusted with money, nor with the Conduct of any ship or sloope, making pretences as he did to wander to every place he can think of to the Companys excessive and unnecessary charge, neither did he, as he ought, in taking the Companies ready money for debts he contracted at Indrapura, which most probably will never be paid, in which matter we desire your especiall care, and that you doe peruse his Journall in that Respect (as we have done all over) and see that right be done us accordingly. His pretence of a Phirmaund to settle a Factory at Quiddah, signifies no more to us then your proposition formerly of setling a Factory at Pegu, which may a little serve your own occasion, but such trifling places will never do the Company any good, Sumatra is the only Island of all India for Pepper, and that is the Commodity which at present causes the great Fermentation between the Dutch

Mr. Du Jardin did well at Indrapura but is not fitt to be trusted with money or command of any ship.

See that right be done the Company for the debts due at Indiapoora. His pretence for settling at Quedah is as fruitless as

[1] Orankey or Arangkaio—a person of distinction, a chief or noble in the Archipelago, corresponding to the Indian, *Omrah*, literally a rich man. *Hobson-Jobson*, page 644.

your setling at Pegu, which may serve your ends not the Cos. Pepper causes the fermentation between the Company & the Dutch. To prevent their engrossment of it fortify & settle at Priaman on the West Coast &ca.

and us, as Cloves and nutmegs did formerly, they would engross all. We are loath to betray our Country in leaving it quietly to them, although the doing thereof would be gain to the present Adventurers, and therefore the only healthfull places we apprehend fit for you to fortify strongly and defend, is Pryaman upon the West Coast, and some other place near the Point of Jehore, fronting the north east side or corner of Sumatra, which will lye conveneintly for our Chyna trade as we have formerly writt you. and shall further enlarge upon that Subject per the Williamson

Your Notion about the Bay we agree with.

10. We agree with your Notions fully, concerning the Bay, as you will find by what we writt you by the Beaufort and Rochester last year.

About Mr. Heathfield.

11. We doubt not of Mr. Heathfields ability, if he be honest, for that is the main necessary endowment in India, one Man of parts, that is a knave, beirg able slyly and craftily to do us more mischief then five of a common capacity, but he being a Merchant himself, we doubt whether it be prudent to trust him in the Custome house.

We would have Mr. Frazer & all men be obedient, but not intimidated by anyone. Except against any part of a letter &ca.

12. We would have Mr. Fraser and all men give obedience to their Superiours, but we would not have our Councill whereof he now is, nor any member of them, to be led or intimidated by any one man, as to set their hands to expostulating letters, which they do not approve in their Judgments and Consciences, without making their exception to such part of any Generall Letter in writing which they cannot honestly allow of or subscribe, and when we receive such exception, well knowing your Persons and Interests, we shalbe able to Judge whither such exception proceeds from an upright honest meaning, or from Sedition and faction (a Vice which we detest and abhor) and shall accordingly judge of the Exceptor and the exception.

Displace none of our factors in China.

Wonder you employ'd Mr. Baron whom we order you to put out of our service.

Tywan good for nothing no more than Syam thô you so affectionately recommend it.

13. Though we did put our Chyna Trade under your Conduct, we did not thereby intend you should alter those Persons our Generall and Council of India appointed Chiefe and Council there, much less that you should employ such an expensive extravagant Wanderer as Mr. Barron has always been (though otherwise a man of good parts) whom therefore we require you to put out of our Service according to our former orders, and that Mr. Gladman and those our Generall &c^{a}. sent, do remain our Chief and Council at Emoy, and if you intended Mr. Barron and those you sent with him not for Emoy but for Tywan, as your letter seems to import, it is altogether as ill designed for the Company, whatever it may be for yourselves, for that we have found by long Experience, that Tywan is good for nothing but to put us to charge and wast our Estates like that wicked place Syam, which you have so affectionately and fervently often recommended to us, with that vile man which you call the Hon^{ble}. Constantine Phaulcon, whose mischeivous Purposes we long foresaw, notwithstanding the Encomiums you give him, and now feel to our cost at Metchlepatam.

Its very unhappy our notions & yours clash so, when we so agree at Suratt. Hope it wil be otherwise for the future now you have seen

14. Its monstrous unhappy that your Notions and ours should always so clash and be contrary in all things. On the other side of India we always concenter in one Opinion concerning Persons and things, which our most worthy Generall and Councill of Surratt, we hope it wil be otherwise hereafter, now we have made such a change in your Council, for in truth it is intolerable and we can suffer it no longer, especially since you have lived to see the Error of your notions, or at least your Propositions to us concerning Phaulcon, Syam, Pegu, Mohoone, and your fatall mistake (though for ought we know best designed) in changing our purposes

for Pryaman, which is sufficient to caution you not to abound in your own sense, or vary from our orders, but upon very urgent and pregnant Necessity to the Conviction of our whole Council, and that but very rarely in the greatest cases, and never in any triviall Concernes.

your Errors about Syam &ca. and that you will not vary from our orders without urgent necessity.

15. Touching that affair of Mr. Coats, we shall say nothing here, having left it to our Secrett Committee, whose Command you are to observe, as well as you are Military Officers as Merchants &c[a].

About Mr. Coats refer to the Secret Committees Letter.

16. We have writt so much in former letters concerning the reasonableness of our raising a Revenue in that Citty of Madrass, that we will say no more now, but expect your promised performance, and that you do execute by Martiall Law such as shall raise Sedition or Rebellion in that Garrison, as has been done at St. Helena and would have been done at Bombay infallibly but that Sir Thomas Grantham prevented the Kings Justice by pardoning the Rebels upon their Surrender before the Kings orders reached that Island.

We expect your raising a Revenue at Madrass & that you execute Rebells by Martiall Law.

17. That Factory of Metchlepatam is always so chargeable that we immediately resolve to dissolve it, as also that of Pettypolee as useless, now we are free from the fear or Competition of the Interlopers, and therefore do require you forthwith upon receipt of these Letters totally to dissolve those two Factoryes.

Metchlepatam is so chargeable, we require you to dissolve it immediately, as also Pettipolee.

18. We find by all Advices that Mr. Chaney has dealt treacherously with us as we suspected before we sent him, he being a whily, crafty, young man, but wants true wisdome, which is to be just and upright. We employed him only for the sake of the Mindano settlement thinking him fit to begin such a busyness by reason of his Malay Language and naturall cunning, for to deal with the Dutch, Malays, or Javans, he might meet within the Eastern Seas, But since he has slyly avoided doing his duty in that matter for which we principally employed him, he shall fail of his Reward, which was to be one of our Council at the Fort, which we now resolve he shall never have the honour of, at least not till he gives us cause to have a better opinion of his Sincerity, and therefore whether he be or be not already of our Council, we hereby declare and admonish you that he have no further Voice, Suffrage, or place therein after the Arrivall of these Letters, but if you think fit you may employ him (and Mr. Moody whom we take to be a down right well meaning man) on the West Coast of Sumatra, and both of them do understand the Jav[a]n and Malay Languages competently well.

Mr. Cheney hath dealt badly with us being very crafty We employ'd him for Mindanao, but he not doing his duty shall fail of being of Council with you till he become better and therefore let him have no place there, but may employ him & Mr. Moody on the West Coast.

19. Its not only detestable but ridiculous that you should write us Mr. Hamon Gibbons sayes he is our Servant, or desires to be soe, or that we would leave him to you to be employed as you see cause, and then to say you will employ him in the meantime, just as you did in the case of Mr. Barron, which is as much as to say by our leave you will employ him whither we will or noe, pray let us hear no more of these gross examples of disobedience, but when you move anything to us, let it rest so till you have our Answer, without resolving your own questions, which we cannot bear the repetition of.

Its ridiculous to write us Hamon Gibbins is our servant & whether we will employ him, & then say you will employ him the while, as you did Barron.

20. Mr. Francis Heathfeild we shall not employ in our service, but let him continue a freeman at the Fort if he thinks fit.

21. We are sorry to find you so often Advocates for such as we know have no kindness for this Company, and have lived wandering up and down in India upon designs contradictory and prejudiciall to our affaires.

Are sorry you are advocates for those that are no friends to us.

22. We are hastening the Williamson to you, who may be with you as soon as these Letters, with a very considerable stock, after which we intend to send you the Defence, with a great stock likewise, but no other ships this year having abundance of Goods upon our hands.

Are sending you the Williamson & Defence with great stocks.

What you buy we hope will be better sorted and cheaper.

23. What you buy hereafter, we hope wilbe upon better termes, or at least better sorted then any we have received since Mr. Bigrigs death.

Shall send by each ship 100 soldiers.

24. By the Williamson and Defence we likewise intend you 100 Soldiers by each ship, But the Defence is so much decayed by the length of her last voyage, that we doubt we shall hardly get her into the Downs before the beginning of March next, and since the Trade is like to lesson for some time, between India and Europe, tis the more necessary that you should retrench a great part of our charge which with other good Efforts we shall expect from this new Establishment of our Councill, and our new President, if he comes frankly and cordially into the true interest of this Company, and breaks off his Correspondence with such as we know wish us no good, though they may flatter, and it may be obliged him and others of the first forme in our service abroad.

Hope this new Council will retrench our charge & our President break off correspondence with our Enemy.

A further prosecution of the sending an entire Cargoe of China goods.

25. You must observe that in our proposition before concerning Chyna Goods, We say any intire Cargo, by which we mean, that you should not pick out a few of the best Goods to sell there, and send us the Cullings or remainder, but send us the whole Bulke of any Ships Cargo of Goods proper for Europe, except Tutenague and Copper, which we know are only proper for India, but let us say what we will, and with the greatest Indifferency to our Selves, and Indulgence to you, we know a sinister use may be made of it, to our loss, if you resolve to contrive things so adversely to our purpose, and should send us an ill bought Cargoe because it is such, and retain another to yourselves which is better bought, it being impossible to contrive any orders so wisely or justly, that witty self ended men may not pervert to our disadvantage, but we will hope our new President will turne the Streame of his good parts into a better Channell, that we may have no further occasion of writing to you in this manner, which we do not, nor have any provocation to write so to any other place.

Reasons for not sending stock on the Bengall to the Fort.

26. You may wonder the Bengall comes to you without any stock untill we give you the reasons, which are,

1st. That we have on board her for Bombay about 120,000 *l.* and dare not adventure more upon one ship, Besides she has 100 soldiers on board, which are presently needfull at Bombay, the Principall hold we have of India, and the only place we have of our own where we can Grave and fitt our Ships.

2. Because we know the Williamson going directly may probably be with you as soon as this, with as large a stock. Abundance of Goods from your Parts we want not at present, and therefore shall send you very little shipping next year, but would have you pay off your debts, if you owe anything on our Account as soon as the Williamson arrives, and make it your Busyness by all the means you can invent to supply as large a share of our Tonnage as you can possibly in pepper, but not at 17 Pagodas per candy, as you gave to Captain Heath and Captain Wiltshaw, which we account as extravagant an abuse as the former mentioned affaire of your Chyna Goods per Royall James.

We hear your ship Triplicane was loaden with pepper which provokt the Syam to come away unloaden notwithstanding our prohibition of pepper &ca. at Sumatra.

27. And yet we are told of a worse matter, if it be true, that your own ship Triplican was fully loaded with pepper at the West Coast of Sumatra, which hindred the Syam from having her dispatches and provokt that ships company to that rash action of comeing away without order of the Cheife of Indrapura, notwithstanding that you know, when we first ordered a settlement on the West Coast of Sumatra we did, as we now positively doe, prohibite all private persons from trading in that Commodity or in Callicoes, without which prohibition yourselves know it is impossible for the Company to sustain the charge of beginning and supporting those Garisons.

The Syams Purser informs us of Mr. Potts going to

28. The Purser of the ship Syam (who is now second mate of her) tells us likewise that after Mr. Ords death, the ship with Mr. Potts on board as Chief went to Pryamàn, and landed with 50 men that he commanded, their Musquets shotted, and all other Armes fixed, and in that posture entred the Dutch

Compound pallazadoed with trees or stakes, within which they had five small Guns or Rantackers, 2 Factors, and 2 Writers, and about 30 paultry weak soldiers, that as soon as they came in the soldiers told them they had no shott in their Musquets nor would fire anything but powder, being willing to deliver the place to the English, which our men could have taken possession of presently, but Mr. Potts durst not give them order to do it (for fear of beginning a war) to the greif of the Dutchmen, as well as the English, which we think was a needless scruple of Mr. Potts, considering those people had before submitted to our King, which is as good a Title as the Dutch can pretend to any part of India, and we would not have you foregoe it, nor any other right of that kind for fear of them, for by such pusillanimous fear only we know our Predecessors lost their footing in the Spice Islands, and we are resolved never to betray the pepper trade to them in the same way, neither have we cause, as we apprehend, to be in such fear of the Dutch in India as our Predecessors were, not only because we have a good stock of Commodities by us, whereas they used to keep empty warehouses at home, but also because we know the Dutch Tyranny in India is now grown to such a hight, that they are hated, not only by all the Natives in India, but by their own people, to such a degree, that we do not much doubt, but that if they make a war upon us (which we will not begin with them) their own people will leave them and come under our protection, to enjoy the priviledges and preferments that we give to such as serve us in India.

Pryaman, &c^{a}.

Mr. Potts fear of beginning a war groundless, since those people had submitted to our King which was a good Title for us.

We will not foregoe any part of India for fear of the Dutch as our Predecessors did, nor have Wee the reason to fear them as they had.

29. There returnes by this ship to you one Sweed and an Englishman, whom we have made Sarjeants, because they speak good Mallay and Moores Languages, and have been long in the Dutch service, and can acquaint you with many things fitt for you to observe and make use of, particularly they tell us of a very good place under a Rajay Brother of Sumbajee, between Negapatam and Trincumbar, very fit to build a Fort, and that the Rajah will give the English any Conditions. If you find it so, we think you may do very well to send one or both these men, with an Ingenuous Factor, to try what the Rajah will condescend to, and if you like the place and his termes, you may proceed as you shall Judge most convenient for our present and future Advantage in time of peace or Warr, but in such case you must maintaine but one Factory in the Gingee Country, it being too much for our trade, as it is like to be lessened, to maintaine three Factoryes in Sumbajees Country, viz^{t}. Conimore, Codalore, and Porta Nova, one of which wilbe sufficient now we are rid of the fear of Interlopers, and of that one we will have Mr. Wilcox to be Chief, since he has performed better for us then any of the others which you have intrusted in those parts.

There goes on the Bengall an Englishman, & a Sweed, whom we have made Sargeants.

About settling a Fort near Trincombar.

Maintain but one factory in Sumbagees Country of which let Mr. Wilcox be Chief.

30. Which of the 3 Places aforesaid you think best to retaine for our service we leave to your Discretions, but which ever it be, we would have it secured by a small Fort, which you may contend hard with Sumbajee, or his subodore for, and we are very inclinable to think he will readily grant you leave to build a Fort in any part of his Country when once he sees his Brother or Unkle has granted you the like liberty, in that Country between Trincumbar and Nagapatam which we like the better, because it lyes between those two Places from whence our Intended Fort will never want some supply of soldiers by the Dutch and other Runaways, which our good pay will invite to stay with us.

Secure it with a small Fort.

31. We have left it to our Generall and Council of India's discretion whether to keep or send the Bengall forward to you, not knowing what need he may have of such a ship at Bombay, or in Persia, or what need you may have of her Assistance in Bengall. Those affaires wilbe better known to our said Generall &c^{a}. then they can be to us here at this time, and we doubt not but he will resolve with great Caution and consideration what shalbe best for us, and that if he should send her to you, you will have provided Pepper sufficient to send her home to us, with all the rest of our ships that you can spare out of the Country, and the more Pepper you send, and less other Goods (Bay Goods only excepted) the better it is for our Interest at this time, soe as that you keep not our ships useless upon Demorage.

It is at our Generall's liberty to detain or send the Bengall.

If she comes dispatch her and the other ships with all the Pepper and Bay Goods you can.

Orders to keep to the list for Coast goods, but to exceed in the Bay goods if possible.

32. We send you enclosed a List of such Coast Goods, that we would have provided at present, unto which List we would have you keep yo^{r}.selves strictly, but if you can exceed in the Bay Goods, especially those sorts marked as in the Margin, it wilbe a great service.

Nœ fflax dressers will come out.

33. We can perswade no fflax Dressers, to goe to you, they being a midland sort of people, which love not the Sea, But we think you may upon enquiry find out some of your soldiers, that have a little skill therein, w^{ch}. y^{e}. ingenuity of those natives, may soone improve.

The stock sent out not to lye uninvested, but if nœ Bay goods procurable, the same to be procured from China or elsewhere.

34. Althô we have said before, that we care not how few goods we have, nor how much pepper, so that our ships be sent us home full, without lying useless upon Demorage, yet you must alwayes understand, that we would have our whole stock invested, without taking the advantage of our aforesaid indifferency, to our loss in keeping any of our stock dead by you, but imploy w^{t}. overplus of stock you have at the ffort in the Bay, or if that be disturbed, in producing such kind of silke wares, as are usually made there, from China, or elsewhere, if it be possible, and you cannot contrive to set up that kind of Manufactury at the ffort.

Severe Reprimand for sending private ships to Bencoolen & Indrapura.

35. As to the sending of your ship to load Pepper at y^{e} West Coast, if you should pretend that our former order, forbiding y^{e} trade of Pepper and Callicoes, extended only to Atcheen, Pryaman and Tecou: But not to Bencoolen & Indrapura, which were not mention'd in the litterall words of our former order, and that therefore you sent our ships, first to those two places to settle there, or thereabouts, where you might after we had been at the charge, send your own ships to eat up the profit, it is so flagicious an act, that we know not what to think of it, nor how you can answer the many ill consequences which have hapened thereupon, nor shall we know, how to correspond with you or direct our own affaires, if you, y^{t}. should be carefull and solicitous for our interest in Chief, imploy your wits, to study evasions, of the most plain & necessary orders, we give you.

Mr. Wilcox dismist ye Rt. Honble. Compes. Service.

36. It appears by the Copy bookes of your Lres, rec^{d}. & sent, that Wilcox his second was a drunken sottish careless fellow, who we require you immediately to turne out of our service, and never to receive him in again on any pretence.

Concerning Mr. Hillar but none of ye Compas. servts to be put into places of trust.

37. We observe likewise, that you have one Hillar in the Custome house, which is not the Comp^{as}. Covenant Servant, we have nothing against y^{e} man, but for the future, observe it as a constant rule, never to put any man in a place of trust while you have any one of the Comp^{as}. servants, y^{t} can officiate, thô it be but with the help of an Interpreter, such being less liked to make indirect bargains to our prejudice, y^{t} must use a witness, then those y^{t} can tell their own Tale etc^{a}.

Mr. Heathfield expel'd the Compas. service.

38. We understand not y^{e} mistery, of Mr. Heathfields leaving his Chyrurgery, to turn factor at £15 ℔ Ann^{m} & are apt to suspect, there is more in it then we are aware of, because he is a great trading Merch^{t} & has many Relacons in y^{t} Country that are so, & w^{ch} is worst of all, we know y^{e} Interlopers recken him among y^{e} number of their ffriends, & therefore we do hereby expell him o^{r}. service, if he cannot content himself wth his old Employm^{t} of Chyrurgeon to our ffactory.

[Noe] more than one table to be kept.

39. We are offended wth yo^{r} keeping two Tables, one [at y^{e} Garden] house, & another at y^{e} ffort, w^{ch} is a new invencon & chargeable, and therefore we require you to leave it off.

Concerning Genll. Child, all respect Imaginable to be shewn him where-ever he comes & by all ℔sons.

40. We have given leave to our Gen^{ll}. of India, S^{r} John Child Barron^{t}. if he thinks fit, and our occasions at Bombay, can spare him, to visit yo^{r} place & the Bay, & if he should come thither, we require you to receive him, with such honour as is due, to the Kings Lieuten^{t}. and our Gen^{ll}. and Chief over all our affaires, and the English nacon in India, according to the many Commissions we have given him, and our new Commissions now sent you, and wherever he comes, we

require our Presidents Agents, all our Chiefs and Councils, & all our Officers, Seamen and Soldiers, Military, and Civill, to give him y^e^ Chair, and all due obedience, as our Cap^t^ Gen^ll^. and Chief of all our Affaires in all places wherever he shalbe within y^e^ limits of our respective Charters.

Liberty granted to entertain Mr. Griffith. but to be imploy'd on the West Coast of Sumatra.

41. M^r^. George White has earnestly entreated us, to employ in our service one M^r^. Endymion Griffith a former Voyager in India, now living at the ffort, but we have had so many of these outlyers, (half alienated from their Country & wholy from us) lately obtruded upon us without our Consent, that we are not willing to be engaged by any entreaty to commit the like error ourselves, except you should need such a man as he is, on the West Coast of Sumatra, where we give you leave to employ him, if you really believe he is honest, and fit for our service here, but not otherwise.

Orders for the repacking all China goods, with directions p^rticularly about China Ware.

42. ffor w^t^ Chyna Goods you shall send us according to our proposals herein to you, we would have them all to be opened by you, out of their Chyna, Package, they being generally ill packed from thence, & securely repackt again, especially y^e^ Chyna Ware, & to have all the broken ones taken out y^t^ we may not pay freight & Custome here for nothing, And for w^t^ Chyna ware [you] repack, let not y^e^ Chests be filled up w^th^ that light Chaff y^t^ they come w^th^ from Chyna, but having laid y^e^ first row of Chyna ware in the Chest, as close as may be pouring Paddy thereon, (not Rice for y^e^ weasel wil eat y^t^), & shake y^e^ Chest well, then put in the next row, & paddy thereon again, leaving no chinck, but w^t^ shalbe filled with Paddy, so laying in y^e^ Chyna Ware, till the Chest be full, shaking in as much Paddy as possibly you can, before the Chest be nailed down.

according to ye present circumstances of things, 'tis a question whether fortifying in ye Chengie Country or more southwards be convenient, left to farther consideration.

43. Notwithstanding all we have said before concerning fforts, and that we do think it is an excellent staçon for o^r^ affaires, to have one ffort in every Princes Dominion, w^th^ whose subjects we trade, w^ch^ on yo^r^side of India are the Mogol in Bengall, (touching w^ch^ place, we gave the necessary orders last year) The King of Gulcondah, where we have ffort St. George, The Gingee Country, where we have yet no ffort, & that Country between Trincumbar & Negapatam, where we have yet neither ffort nor ffactory, yet we say upon this subject, it is a question amongst us, whether while our trade is lessening, and we are engaged in such a controversy, in Bengall, and upon the West Coast, it be not best for y^e^ Comp^a^ to suspend a year or two, untill the other troubles be over, before we settle any new ffort, in the Gingee Country, or that to the Southward of Trincumbar, and the result of our Consultaçons is, that you should erect no ffort, except you are morally sure, that the trade of that place (and the good behaviour, that wilbe thereby obtained from the King of Golcundah's Gov^rs^. when they know we have another place of our own to resort to, if they use us ill,) will countervail the first cost and future expence of such a fortifyed Settlement.

Allowances for the Tigre taken off.

44. The Tygar you keep at the expence of a Goat a day, besides attendance, we look upon as a superfluous, vain Charge, let all such kind of needless expences, within doors & without, be pared off, while you see we are engaged in so many greater disbursements for the publique good.

Concerning bricks & Gunner Dixon opiniou [. . .].

Of the Bricks you writt for, we have shipt 50,000: on board the Williamson, but are sorry we have done it, since we are assured by Gunner Dixon, and many others y^t^. know yo^r^. place, that Bricks may be bought with you, as good as these for less than ¼ part, of w^t^. those stand us in, If you say these are harder then yo^rs^. w^ch^. some that have lived long upon the place will not acknowledge, it must be yo^r^. greater care to have all these wrought on the outsides of yo^r^. walls only.

Mr. Unkettle recommended & to be prefer'd.

45. We think it adviseable to let you know that among other Persons sent from hence to Pryaman, We sent one Mr. Unkettle, that formerly was Master of S^r^. John [Wetwang's] Sloop, he carryed with him his wife and 6 Children, & was appointed one of our Council, He is a worthy Person an Admirable shipwright and Engineer, is fitt to be Governour of any Colony, and accordingly we would have you esteem and prefer him. We sent likewise many Artificers, sober men

Artifices, ffactors writers &ca. sent out for Pryaman.

and many ffactors and writers, 200 peices of fine great Ordnance, Carriages & all manner of Ammunicõn belonging to them, But now we know not, w^t. will become of them all, you have so confounded our affaires by changing the place of yo^r. own propos'd and our intended settlement.

Orders how to dispose of the guns sent out.

46. If you make any new Settlement, you may make use of some of these Guns &c^a. and the rest sell as well as you can, and mount some of them upon the Walls of our new workes at Madrass, and some in the Bay if you obtaine any fortified Settlement there. So committing you, and our Affaires to the Guidance and Prõtecc̃on of the Almighty Wee remain.

Yo^r. Loving Friends,

JOHN GOODERE
RICH^D. HUTCHINSON.
WILLIAM JARRETT
JOHN MOORE.
NATHANIEL MOUNTENEY.
WILLIAM SEDGWICKE.
JOSIA CHILD Governour.
BENJ^A. BATHURST Dep^ty.
BERKELEY.
JEREMY SAMBROOKE.
EDWARD DES BOUVERY.
GEORGE BOUNE.
JAMES WARD.

GENERAL LETTER FROM FORT S^T. GEORGE, DATED JANUARY 7, 1687. RECEIVED JULY 23, 1687. PER WILLIAMSON. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 69—79.*]

LONDON THE 7^TH. OF JANUARY 168$\frac{6}{7}$.

OUR PRESIDENT & COUNCIL
ATT FORT S^T. GEORGE.

Duplicates of what lettrs. was sent you via Suratt ꝑ shipp Bangall now comes with ys. The Honoble. compas. orders Infringed by their servts. of ys. place who loaded 2 shipps ye. Trblican and a Pink with peppr. on ye. West coast wch. cources must desist from or be turned out of service.

1. You have with this, Copyes of all that we wrote you viâ Surrat, by the Bengall, which we confirme, and h[ave] further to add, That besides your ship Triplican, you had [a] Pinck loaded with Pepper, upon the West Coast, which is such an intollerable abuse of our Orders, that we hope you will not again be guilty of, directly or indirectly, If you should, We tell you in plain termes, that we will not leave one person of our Council in our Service, that we shall apprehend to be interested in such sinister Contrivances, Esteeming it much better to turn to any expedient, rather then to be disobeyed, wilfully or craftily, by any that enjoy a profitable or honourable employm^t. under us.

Mr. Samuell Potts, his acctios. at Syam mightyly applauded as likewise what has since done at Indera-poore for wch. good service is ordred to be favoured and encouraged [. . .]. Fort St. George [. . .] and favorble [. . .] Plaulkons [. . .]

2. Although M^r. Potts and his Relations here, are wholly strangers to us, yet by what he did and suffered for us at Syam, and has since done for us at Indrapura, (notwithstanding his timerous mistake at Pryaman,) we believe he is an honest plain hearted man, and a good Servant to us, And would have you accordingly, to favour and encourage him, and let him know that we will not forgett his faithfull service at Syam, though it succeeded so ill, by reason of the flagicious craft of that ill man Constantine ffaulkon, who has endeavoured to endear you, to the ruine of our affaires, according to the practice of Out-lyers and Interlopers, and such kind of People, who in all times have made it their busyness to indulge and corrupt our chief servants, to make their own advantages of them and us, and such as they could not corrupt, they have endeavoured to destroy or ruine, as ffaulkon did Mr. Potts, M^r. Strang, and M^r. Crouch at Syam, and many others attempted to doe y^e. like to our faithfull Generall S^r. John Child, when they could neither court nor fright him from his duty to his Majesty and our selves.

3. The expences of your Out-ffactoryes, by the books receiv'd this year, appears to be very extravagant, Wherefore we require you again immediately to dissolve those ffactories, we ordered to be dissolved in our former Lrẽs, and to use your utmost endeavours to retrench the charges, in those w^ch. you continue and desire M^r. Brown, to make use of his good parts, either to improve the revenue

of the ffarme, of the Town of Vizagapatam, or to get the rent abated, ffor by the books now receiv'd, We find our selves loosers by that ffarme Pa: fa: Pice 1258 : 21 : 2.

The revenues of Vizagapatam to be improved ye Compay being at present loosers by yt : factory to ye : extent Pagods. 1258 fa 21 and pice 2.

4. We send by this Ship Sr. John Biggs, to be our Judge Advocate, in whose fidelity and Zeal for our Service, and for the encrease of our revenue in that great City of Madrass, we have much Confidence, And therefore for his greater honour We appoint him to be of our Council notwithstanding, he is not named in our last Commission, and to take place next after our second of the Council, for the time being, desiring you to give him such a publique reception as befitts his quality, and ye. trust we have reposed in him.

[John] Biggs sent or Judge Advocate and [next after 2nd] in Council

5. We have likewise sent by this Ship, one Mr. Edward Tredcroft at ffactors salary, to be Register of our Court of Admiralty, and of our Court martial, in which two employments (The Court Martial sitting but seldome) you may allow him a Writer to be his Assistant or Deputy, in all times of sorting goods, Because we would alwayes have him, and Mr. Fraser to be Assistants to Mr. Littleton or whoever shalbe in that place, in sorting of our Goods, that we may at length, arrive at being better used, in that important busyness of sorting, then ever we have yet been, since Mr. Bigriggs death: And for that reason, we will not have Mr. Tredcroft removed from the ffort, nor from that employment, without our own speciall order.

Mr. Edward Tredcroft order'd Register of ye. Admirallty court and Court Martiall. as likewise goedowne keeper assistant not to be removed from ye. fort with out orders.

6. You are to observe it as a standing Rule, that no employmts in our Custome house or otherwise on shore, be conferred on any Persons, but on such as are immediately in the Companies service, and if you have any Persons in such employments [that are not] our own immediate Indenture servants, we hereby [require you] immediately to displace them, and put others [of our indenture] servants in their places and stead, for which [purpose you can]not want men, now we have sent so many, and [dissolved so] many of your inferior ffactoryes.

[None] but ye. Compas. Imediate Covenant servts. to be Imploy'd in ye. Custome house.

7. Mr. Beards faithfull service, although he [be dead we] do not forget, and therefore have ordered our Agent [& Council] in the Bay, to place Mr. Beard's son, in some [one of our Councils] of the Bay, where he may be capable of doing [us the best service] and if there were any of Mr. Bigrigs Relation [left to whom] we might show the like kindness, we should be [glad of the] occasion to express our gratitude to his Memory, and if by reason of the troubles in the Bay, Mr. Beard's son should be forced to come up to the ffort, we would have you give him all the aid and Countenance you can in our service.

The Ho. compas. gratefull remembe-rance of Mr. Beard's service has Inclyn'd them to order his sonn on of [Councell] in ye. Bay or if [come] to ye. fort to have [favor] kindness shewd him.

8. We consider what a bulk of Tonnage you have upon your hands, and therefore, we have sent you so great a stock by this ship, The particulars whereof, you will see, by ye. Invoices and Bills of loading, and we shall send you no other ship this year, besides the Resolution, and by her the like stock, because this is our proper time to lessen our Tonnage, now that the Interlopers are finally beaten out, and our Warehouses are so full of your Country Goods, as you will perceive by the List for that purpose.

The William-son and Resolution only to come out ys. year by reason of of ye. many shipps all ready with you and their warehouses full of India goods.

The Compay. desire yt. footing may be still kept on Sumatria for gaining of peppr. in order to filling up of Tonage at present and yt. a smale fort be made at ye. place spoak of by ye. Secret commity. noe men or aids to be sent thither but by way of the fort St. Ge. by reason of yt. length of time our. alternate advices take upp.

9. But our great hopes and desire is, that in order to the filling up of our Tonnage at present, and the encrease of the English Navigation, you will keep your footing on the West Coast of Sumatra, and settle some other ffactory for Pepper, about the place, which our Secret Committees formerly directed if you can be protected, and have the liberty to build a small ffort on good Termes, but you must not rely upon men, or aid from us, other then such, as we shall first send to ffort St. George, It taking up such a vast length of time, between yor. writing, and the possibility of the arriving of our aids and supplyes at the place you propose, especially, if you should vainly as you did last time, propound one place to us, and send our ships to an other, which was the greater mistake at that time, because thereby you made the Voyage, twice as long to Bencoolen, as it would have been at that time to Pryaman, which ye. Captains have assured us, notwithstanding what you writt to ye. Contrary, which we do not look upon as a wilfull error in you, but as a mistake of the Course of the Monsoones, upon the West Coast of Sumatra, which you did not then so well understand.

a great mistake Comited in proposing one place to [us. and sending shippour to an other wch. ou Comadrs. inform us made ye. voyage to Bancoolen twice as long as would have been to Priaman but ye. mistake proceeded from your non knowledge of ye. mfinsoones.

The fine great guns designed for Priaman, to be sould or used to our [reall] advantage.

10. We know not, what will become of the great quantity of fine great Guns, which we sent you, and all the Ammunition suitable intended for Pryaman, It must be yor. great care to Consider seriously of that matter, and to provide all you can, That that stock, may not lye useless upon yor. hands, but (if it be possible) that part be sold, and the rest so used, that it may do us real service.

Capt. Unkettile a man of great sobriety, and skilld in ye. mathamatiques, fortification &ca. with ye. many sober men, about may be Imploy. on yee westt Cost in any place wher you settile.

11. Captain Unkettle, that commands the ship Pryaman, is a Person of choice parts, sobriety and honesty, and an excellent Artist in ffortification, Gunnery, the shipwrights Art, navigation and many other things, and there goes with him a great many sober men, fit to be trusted, if you make any settlement, or can maintaine those you have already on the West Coast, where we believe much of the mortality of our people proceeded from the hardships (especially the want of water) which they suffered in their long passage from ffort St. George to Bencoolen.

Note certaine directions concerning Capt. Warner

12. We can give you no particular direction concerning this ship, not knowing what occasion you may have of her, & of so discreet a Commander in Bengall, or some where upon the West Coast, But if you send her thither, we

would have you contrive it so, that she stay not above two months upon the Coast, and there be not great need for her going thither or to Bengall, or to the other Pepper place our secret Committee formerly advised you of, We had rather, if you can, that you should procure her, such a freight from Metchlepatam, as the Syam Merchant had for Persia, where Captain Warner was the last Voyage, and we believe wil be well accepted of by such Armenians or Persians which knew him formerly.

but left to ye. Presdt. and Counc. who if [they] send him to ye. West Coast or ye. other Peppr. place advis'd of by y Secre Commty. are not to detaine him about month$_t$ on yt. cos: but had rather shee should take in a freight at Metzlepatam for Persia, h e being accquanted there.

13. You will see by the List now sent you, that we desire few goods home, except Pepper and Bay Goods, our principall dependance for the loading of our ships, being upon Pepper, But it wilbe of mighty advantage to that Citty of Madrass, if you can introduce the making of Bay Manufactures there, which seems not impossible to us, since they are as good spinners and Weavers on the Coast of Choromandel as most in the Bay of Bengall.

[Few] goods, save peppr. and Bangall goods to be sent home by ys. shipping and if possible to Encourage ye. Bay manufactory at Madrass.

14. We must and do enjoyne you, more especially this year, to keep strictly to our List of Goods to be provided, and send us all the Tonquin Musk unadulterated, that you can procure in Madrass, at two Dollars, or two and ½ Dollars ℔ ounce, And all the good Pelongs[1] you can buy there, at two Dollars or two Doll^s. and a half each peece, and PRO RATA, any other sort of Chyna Silk according as you find them, proportionably and respectively rated in the Invoices you received, from our Chief and Council and Tonquin, by the Dragon this year, the rather because, we have sent no ship from hence this year to Tonquin, and because probably the interruption of our affaires in Bengall may hinder the accustomary supply of silk wares, which we usually had from thence.

Musk of Tonquoen good, at 2½ Dollars per ounce: on Pelongs at Do. rates ppe. with other China goods. pro. Rato [ꝑcs'd] to be sent home by reason ye. troubles. at Bengall. may have disapointed us of ye. usuall qy. of silk wares were sent formerly.

15. [The Un]certainty of our affaires in Bengall, makes it impossible for us to resolve with Judgment, what stock to send thither, and therefore we must leave that matter intirely to you, to doe what you think best for us therein, out of the stock we have sent by this Ship, or shall send you by the Resolution.

The stock to be sent to Bengall wholy restord to ye. Presidt. and Council. there and from hence to be supplyd out of ye. stock sent by ye. Williamson or Resolu-

1. It applies to 'bed covers', hand painted. Palang by itself means in Hindustani a bedstead. For other particulars refer to footnote 40 on page 173 of the *Diary and Consultation Book*, 1684. (*Pringle's Selections*).

To indulge all free shipp they paying ye. Custome of 5 ℔ cent giving ym. comissions during our warrs in India reserving to us one. 6th. part of ye. price [tak n] and to Embessell nothing thereof † till condemned by ye. Court of Admiralty. Liberty for loading any unprohibited goods on board our. shipps for England paying ye appointed Custome of 5 ℔ cent.

16. We would have you be very indulgent to all free ships in assisting them to get freights, but make them, and all concerned with them, duly pay all our sea Customes of 5 ℔ Cent, and while you have Warr in India, as now you have against the King of Syam, give them Commissions, if they desire it, against our Enemyes present or future taking good security from the Commanders, with others bound with them, to reserve to us the 6th. part of the value of prize ships or goods, and to embezel nothing of any ship or Cargoe untill the same be lawfully adjudged and condemned in some of his Matys. Courts of Admiralty in India, and most especially, that they do no hurt nor damage to any persons in India in Amity with his Maty., or Us, his Matys. East India Company; And for ye. encouragemt. of the private ships, and other free Merchants, as well as for the full loading home our own great Tonnage, we have thought [it] convenient for the present, and untill our further order to the Contrary, to permit all Persons to load on any of our ships for England, any unprohibited goods whatsoever, on our own termes of freight, without paying any over tonnage to us, or the owners notwithstanding any thing in our Commanders Charterparty to the contrary, the Persons loading such unprohibited Goods, registring them with you, and duly paying that Custome which we have lately appointed of 5 ℔ Cent, [and] this licence we freely give to you, and all persons to what quantity of Tonnage homeward they shall desire, though it should be to the ¼ or ½ of any ships loading.

[. . .] severll. goods spoyled either through ye too great [. . .] or negligence of one of our councll employed in ye. business.

17. His Maty. was perswaded to have thoughts of making an experiment of sending two Doggers, or small ships from Holland, to find out the North East passage to Chyna, and thereupon commanded us, to make provision of some small quantity of Goods, according to the Proposers advice, fit to be sent on such a designe, but the Proposer proving to be insufficient for that undertaking, or not being able to get men that would adventure with him, the designe was laid aside, and the goods consisting of a multitude of little particulars, comeing to us from Holland, we have sent them to you by this ship desiring you to make the most you can of them, and not to let them lye, spoiling by the Walls, as too many have done formerly, because the Person of our Council intrusted in that affaire, was too high in his own Conceit, or too negligent to animadvert such small Concernes of the Companies.

The Genrall to be acquainted yt. we estimate ye. Damages in hindring of trade on ye coast by Ca: Coats amots. to at least £ 10.000 seterling.

18. Acquaint our Generall when he arrives with you, that besides the damage done us by the King of Syam and his subjects, we expect satisfaction for the injuries lately done us by Captaine Coates, in hindring us of all our Northerne investment, which we cannot compute at less damage then £ 10,000 sterling.

Cloth sorted by each ℔ticular man to be imbaled by it self with ye sorters mark on [each sort]

19. Observe alwayes the Rule we gave for the sorter himself and all his Assistants, to sett each their particular marke respectively to every peice of Cloth sorted by them, and let each mans sorting as near as it can be, be embaled by themselves that we may observe, who serves us well, and who is dealt wth. underhand, for that we know at bottom, is the Case and the cause of the great prejudice we have constantly sustained by our Goods not proving according to muster in India; And for the time to bring up your black Merchants fully to their Musters, none can be more opportune then this, now we write for so few Goods.

[20] per cent less [then ye] contract for all goods brought in

20. And whereas, we know it is an old Trick of your black Merchants to delay the bringing in of their Goods, in all ffactories, until the ships are ready to take them in, pretending sometimes, that their Goods are stopt in the Country, and divers other excuses of the same kind, to the end their Goods may be

receiv'd in a hurry, when our sorters have not time, to do their dutyes, in sorting their Goods, as they ought to be, you must for the future take care to prevent abuses of that kind in all places, by a contracting to pay 20 ℔ Cent less for all Goods, that shalbe brought in, after the prefixed day for the delivery of them, or by imposing fines upon the Offenders, and it must be no excuse to avoid the penalty of your Contracts for the Merchants to [say their goods] were stopt in the Country, for such stoppages [they can procure to] be made at any time when they please, for [their own ends and seem to lament] it to you &c[a].

by ye merch[t] after the regulation of the [. . . er] fixed him by wch, [means] our sorters, may have [time to inspect] ye goods with [delebe-ration].

21. Captain Warners ship (as all others we have sent out this year) is to serve us 2 years in the Country, if you see cause or have a necessity of keeping them so long, and in regard the Captain is a prudent, well read, sober man, We think he may be fitt to give good advice in securing our Pepper ffactories at the West Coast, or resetling another Pepper ffactory in that place we formerly mentioned to you, and therefore, as well as for his encouragement to be carefull and resolute in the service of his King and Country, we do hereby appoint him to be of our Council at ffort S[t]. George during his stay there, and to take place in our said Council next after M[r] Littleton, or the third of our said Council for the time being.

The Williamson and Resolution to be kept in India if necessity require. Capt[n]. Warner to be next in councll to M[r] Littleton he being a knowing wise man.

22. We shalbe exceeding glad to hear you have obtained a fortifyed settlement in Bengall, which if it please God to [grant] us we would have you cultivate with all the vigour & strength you can, that we may be well fixed and setled in a good posture of Defence before the Dutch can forme any designes to drive us out, which may be a means to prevent any attempts from them, as well as to secure our interest if they should attempt to disturb us under any Colour or pretence, which they seldome want invention for when they have a mind to injure their neighbours in India.

A fortified setilement in Bangall would be [very] acceptable [necessity to] ye. Right. Ho. Compay.

23. You will observe what we have writt concerning M[r] Griffith in our enclosed Generall letter to Bengall, which we send you open, and you must take notice, that he is no more our servant nor upon our Charge, after the first Arrivall of these Letters in Bengall, nor untill you shall reassume him into our service, to send him a Chief unto some new Pepper ffactory, if you find him capable, and shall really think it for our service, to reimploy him, after he has commenced such a new faction in Bengall (where we are resolved to root out all the seeds of ffactions, and suffer no Person to continue in our service that begins any for the future,) which we must leave to your Consciences and discretion.

M[r] Griffith noe more [ye] Compas Serv[t] or at their charge after ye arrivall. of these letters at Bangall. but to send him if capable. cheif to some Pepper Factory.

24. We have permitted M[r]. Rodrigues to ship on y[e] Williamson a parcel of Amber, paying us 12 ℔ Cent. freight according [to y[e]] order of this Court, which you are to see duely complyed with, particularly that we be not deceived in the report he hath given us of the value of the said Amber.

Mr. Rodrigns permitted [to ship] amber on our [ship] William paying [us] 12 per Ct. wch. you [. . . good] ℔formed.

25. The 15 Chests of Corrall sent on the Williamson, we hope are well bought, and by your diligence will turn us to a great account.

[. . . ye] 15 chests of Coral [sent] turnd to good accot.

26. We know not what end you have made with M[r]. Jersey, nor why you and he should of late be so pressing for our leaving it to you to make an end of that busyness, which he delayed so many years before, and alwayes made some

[Why] ye councll of Fort St. George are

soe pressing to End Mr. Jersey's business.

excuse or other, by himself or ffriends here, when we sent for him to come home. And he was then able to come, But upon the whole matter we are very confident, if right were done, he would be found greatly in our debt, one instance whereof you will find in the enclosed Copy of a Letter to Mr. Johnsons ffather, wherein you will see what a Hector, Mr. Jersey was in those dayes, and how liberally he carved for himself by his own Confession out of other mens Estates, and therefore we can the less think he spared the Companies, This debt, which he acknowledges to be due to Mr. Johnson, we require you to recover of him in our new established Court of Admiralty, and bring the nett debt you receive into our Cash, making Mr. Johnsons account Dr. for the charges of the recovery.

Mr. Jersy's debt to Mr. Johnson to be recover'd by our Admirallty court and brought into our cash making Mr Johnson Dr to charges recovery.

27. The great encrease of yor Inhabitants at Madrass, we perceive hereafter will occasion more Tonnage outwards then we shall have loading for homewards, unless you can much encrease your Pepper investment, or that your Freemen can find out a way to come at other sorts of spice, which now we have given them leave with all other unprohibited Goods to send home by our ships without paying any more freight then we do our selves, that the Relations there of our ffreemen and servants at the ffort may have roome to send out what they will this year more then the Resolution can carry, We thinke to give leave to one other private ship to go to ye ffort this spring, obliging her to touch at St. Helena to take in the 10 condemned men, which were not executed for the last Rebellion (for which only 7 died, Two by the Common law and a Jury, and 5 by the sentence of our Court Martial, the other 10 having wives and fourty Children among them, and being not so eminent in the Rebellion as the other 7 that were [executed] there, we think to interceed with his Maty. to pardon, [but they] shall no longer live upon the Island, where their Crim[e was] committed [according] to the usuall customs of the Romans of [Old].

ffreemen to send any spice pepper [already led] on our shipps at our owne freight.
a private shipp to come out ys spring and bring from St. Helina ye 10 Condemned persons there.

28. Mr. Hall who goes out a ffactor on this ship, was formerly in our service at China, and ought in the same degree to have precedence of those that were entertain'd after him, he is a man of business more than of show and appearance, and Wee have great hopes he may prove an usefull man, and if there be need of more Assistants to our sorter, than Mr. ffrazer and Mr. Tredcroft aforesd, Wee know noe man fitter to be made a third Assistant in that office, he having been bred a Linnendraper, and being as Wee hope well principled with truth and honesty, and if there be noe occasion of any more assistants to the sorter at the ffort, you may send him to some subordinate ffactory on the Coast of Choromandell to be sorter, where there is a vacancy, or you have any suspicion of the skill or honesty of the Person already employed therein.

Mr. Hall to take place accord to ye Date of his first Indentures, and if need requires to be 2d. assistant in ye sorting goedowne with you or sorter in any subordinate factory.

29. In the 40th Paragraph of our Letter by the Bengall, Wee have acquainted you with the commission Wee sent by that ship for [the] Establishing of our President and Council of Fort St. George, and lest the same should not be come to your hands, Wee send you herewth a Duplicate thereof under our larger seal.

a commission, for establishing ye Presdt and Council of Fort St. George sent [. . .] with under our greater seal

30. There comes on this ship the persons following, whom We have entertained in our service, Vizt.

Mr. Wm. Hall.
Mr. Edward Tredcroft. } Ffactors.
Mr. Giles Lytcott.

Mr John Devett Mr John Meverell Mr Robert Cranwell	ffactors.
John Beelue Wm Bowdler Samuel Gyfford Mathew Bryan Heighs Tilson.	Writers.

31. You are by vertue of his Maty's Writt directed to you under seal to cause his Majesties Proclamation thereunto affixed with all due solemnity to be publish'd for the recalling all his Mats subjects from the service of forreign Princes in East India.

His Majesty's proclamation to be published with due solemnity.

32. If you should find it more for our advantage to send Captain Warner to Chittegam to secure our settlement there (if Wee have been so happy as to gett possession of that place) Wee would have him [while he] stayes to be of our Council there, and to take place in our [Councill] of the Bay next after our second of that Council for the time being.

[If for] our. advantage [Captn] Warner to be sent to secure ye settlement [. . .]

33. Wee would have him likewise be of our Council in all places where he shall come during this voyage, and in all Councils except yours and the Bay aforesaid, He is to have place next after our respective Chiefs.

Capt. Warner to be of Councll next our Chiefs of our factorys, except at ye fort & Bay.

34. Let not one hours time be lost in the discharge of this ship, and sending her away on her next voyage with all immaginable expedicon (what ever voyage you resolve on for her).

dispatching ye Williamson on ye voyage you intend

35. The liberty we have given for sending spice home on our ships in this Letter being contrary to an order of this Court of 25th of August and Covenants in Charterparty, You are to understand, is to extend only to Nutmegs, Cloves and Mace, and not to Cynamon of any kind, nor to any other sorts of spice whatsoever, but only those 3 sorts before enumerated.

[noe] spice to be sent home by freeman except nuttmegs, cloves, & mace

36. We have often writt you to procure a Phirmaund for Coyning of Rupees, fanams and pice at the Fort, that thereby some Additionall Revenue might accrue to us by our Mint, But since his present Majesty Our gracious Sovereign hath been pleased by his Royall Charter to grant us that liberty of Coyning, We would have you by vertue of that power from our own King to coyne those species of mony, and to proclaime them to be Current mony in Madrass, and all places where this Company have dominion, and the exercise of Sovereign power in India under and by Authority of our most indulgent Sovereign, and we would have you at the same time continue your Sollicitation at the Court of Gulcondah, that what mony we have made current at the ffort may likewise be current in all that Kings Dominions, which priviledge wilbe worth the expence of a Present to the King of Gulcondah and his Chief Ministers, and whenever you accommodate our differences in Bengall with the Nabob of that place, [or] make any accord with any other Princes in India, [let one] article of your Agreement be that all other species of mony coyned at our City of Madras shalbe Current in their respective dominions.

His Majesty of England [gives] liberty for Quoining silver in Fort St. George wch would have you proclaime Currat mony in all Kindoms you trade wth, and in order theretoo make present to ye King of Golcundah etca yt it may be Curr't in his kindome

37. That we may not leave you at any uncertaintyes, wt stamp to impress upon yor Rupees, we hereby order you as near as you can in yor stamps & Coyning of Rupees to imitate those used in the great Mogol's Country, as well in the forme of ye Rupees as in their finesses, And those especially that are usually or have been lately coyned at Rajamall in Bengall, and with the same Inscriptions and figures on both sides, we being not much concerned at this time whether the Mogol, or his Governours be pleased or displeased at it.

to stamp your mony [as near as] in imitation to ye Mogulls as you can and of ye same forme and fineness with his [rupees]

38. Sell our Corrall as soon as you can obtaine a good price for it, and let no time be lost therein. So commending you and our affaires to y^e^ guidance & protecc̃on of the Almighty We remaine.

Yo^r^ loveing friends,

WORCESTER
HEN. JOHNSON
JOHN. GOODERE
NATHANIELL TENCHE
EDWARD DES BOUVERIE
JAM: WARD.
JOS^A^. CHILD, Gov^r^.
BEN. BATHURST Dep^y^.
JO. CREED
W^M^. SEDGWICKE
NATHA: MOUNTENEY
THO. COOKE
R. HUTCHINSON
RI. STERNE
RO. MARSHALL
GEORGE BOUN

GENERAL LETTER TO BENGAL, DATED JANUARY 7, 1686. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 81–83.*]

LONDON, 7^TH^ JANUARY [1686].

OUR AGENT & COUNCIL
IN BENGALL.

Not knowing what circumstances you may be under when this ship arrives, We have made no direct provision for your place, but have left it to our President & Council at Fort St. George, to send you down what strength, and what stock they think you may have occasion of, it being our great endeavour for the honour of our king, and for the good of our common country and posterity to secure to our successors as well as to our selves a strong fortifyed settlme^t^. in Bengall, in the procureing & establishing whereof, We hope your selves, and others intrust^ed^ in that great nationall affair will exert your utmost courage and diligence & that our President and Council of Fort St. George will not fail of suppling you seasonably with what ever shall be necessary for the carrying on and securing that important business.

We retaine so gratefull a memory of our deceased good servant Mr. John Beards fidelity, that wee do hereby order his sonne to be made one of such of our Council in Bengall as you shall think him capable of, and which may be most for his honest advantage, Wee would have you likewise preffer Mr. Saffold y^e^. first oppertunity you have Wee being well asured he is a very capable person, and truly faithfull to our interest.

We observe likewise Mr. Samuel Griffith is a contentious man, and hath struck up a great opposition, against his chief M^r^. Ellis and M^r^. Ley (both whom wee know to be true to our Interest) and y^t^. he the said M^r^. Griffith hath craftyly drawne Mr. Trenchfeild into confederacy with him, which Mr. Trenchfeild is a[man] wee have a good thoughts of, & therefore to suppress all factions in the Budd, which wee will never more indure in the Bay, Wee do hereby totally dismiss Mr. Griffith from our service and from haveing any thing more to do w^th^. any of our affairs in Bengall, But wee give him leave to goe up to the Fort [to reside there as a free merchant] except our President and [Council shall think fit when he] is there to take him again into our service and make him a chief of some new ffactory in the south seas or near [the places] where he hath been formerly imployed; it being our opinion that his temper is such that he may do us better service in some subordinate Chiefe ship than in being one of any of our Councils under another Chiefe, and you are to take notice that Mr. Griffith is dismist as afforesaid upon the first arrivall of these letters to your hands.

Upon this his dismission wee appoint Mr. Richard Trenchfeild to be third of our Council of Bengall in his stead, & do hereby enjoyne him att all times hereafter to preserve & maintaine a constant amity & perfect good understanding with Mr. Charnock, Mr. Ellis and Mr. Ley, and that he do totally break off all manner of correspondency with Mr. Littleton & all other disobliged persons turned out of our service for there infidelity.

Mr. Charles Cross haveing served nine years as a writer wee would have you admitt him to be a factor takeing such security as he is able to give you there.

Our Accomptant Generall upon perusall of y^e^ Bay Accompts finds that Mr. Edmond Bugden deceased is indebted to us above £500. Wee therefore recommend it to your care to secure the same or what can be gott on thereof out of such estate as he hath left behind him.

M^r^. Crosses friends have given additional security of 1000 £ let him seal y^e^. indenture & bond herew^th^. sent & returne y^e^. same by the next.

Soe recommending you & our affairs to the guidance & blessing of the Almighty wee remaine.

Your Loving friends,

NA: TENCH	JOSIAH CHILD, Gov^r^.
JA: WARD	BEN BATHURST, Dep^ty^
THO. COOK	JN^o^. MOORE
THO. RAWLINSON	RICH^D^. HUTCHINSON
	R. STERNE
	G. BOONE
	ED DES BOUVERIE
	JN^o^. CREED
	WORCESTER
	NAT: MOUNTENEY

DEPUTY GOVERNOR'S LETTER TO FORT ST. GEORGE, DATED JANUARY 10, 1686-7. RECEIVED JULY 23, 1687. PER WILLIAMSON. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 8, *p.* 85.]

LONDON, THE 10^TH^ JANUARY 1686.

OUR PRESIDENT & COUNCIL
AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

His Majestyes letter to M^r^. White and M^r^. Burnaby, which We sent you in our Pacquett by the Bengall is intended to leave them without any Excuse, or hopes of Pardon, if they give not a ready complyance unto it, and to the end they may appear down right Rebells, notwithstanding their pretences to loyalty, if they obey not so loving an invitation of their own naturall Sovereign, and if they should repent their evill courses, and deliver up the places they command to Us, in satisfaction for y^e^. damages the King of Syam, and his subjects have done Us, or at least forbear to make any resistance against our Armes under his Ma^ty's^. Colours, Wee apprehend this Letter from their own King may be a just & hono^ble^. Excuse for their Neutrality, even to the King of Syam himself; w^ch^ was formerly the Case of Mons^r^. Martin the French Commander y^t^. took Bantam for the Dutch, he was before that a great Officer in Armes for them in Zeilon, but when his own Country men came against the Place under the French Kings Colours, he went to the Dutch Gen^ll^. Gov^r^. in Collumbam, deliver'd up his sword, & his Comission telling him that he could not draw a sword, against his own Sovereign nor his countrey men, but desired his leave to goe a Passenger to Battavia, where he was honourably rec^d^, and better esteem'd & preferr'd by y^e^. Dutch for his loyalty to his own Prince. Wee remain,

Your very loving friends,
BEN: BATHURST Dep^ty^

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT ST. GEORGE, DATED JANUARY 22, 1686. RECEIVED JULY 23, 1687. PER WILLIAMSON. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 89–90.*]

LONDON, 22TH JANUARY 1686.

OUR PRESIDENT & COUNCIL
AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Goods left by Captn. Spencer wth. Mr. Heathfield [. . .] assined to us [are] to be demanded of sd. Mr. Heathfield or if sould their [Just] produce bring into our cash.

Upon stating ye. accot. of the Amoy Mercht. We find Capt. Spencer delivered several of our goods into yt. Custody of Mr. Heathfield, and took his receipt for them, the wch. receipt he hath produced, and made an assignemt. of the goods unto Us, both wch. We send you inclosed, & would have you demand and receive the same from Mr. Heathfield, if in being, but if sold and disposed of by him, (as We suppose they are before this comes to your hands) then cause Mr. Heathfield to give you a true accot. of them & pay their Proceed into Our Cash, and bring it in creditt of our accot. currant, advising us by yor. next what is done in it.

The Andaluzia Captt. Jacobs Comander arriving in ye. Channel and putting into Portsmouth for hanging her Ruther, and stopping her Leaks, was (by his Maties Warrt. out of the High Court of Admiralty) seized on the 15th instant, her hatches sealed up, a guard of Musqueteers placed on board, wch. are relieved every four hours, and the Captain, Officers, Supra Cargo and Seamen all arrested and taken into Custody upon accot. of Pyracy and trading contrary to his Maties. Charter granted unto us, which (We doubt not) will sufficiently deterr all others from the like wicked practices for the future, By the Resolution We shall advise you further of the proceedings that shalbe had against her.

The Andaluzia seized by His Majestys. warrat. out of ye. Admiralty Court. ye. Capptaine officers supra cargos, etca., ar'sted on acct. Pyracy and trading contrary to His Majestys charterr granted us.

Upon stating the accot. of the Resolution for her last voyage, there appears to be a great loss of weight in the Indico that she brought home, wch. being charged to the Owners accot., They reply, that it was sent on board without being weighed. We therefore think fitt to order and direct that both at ffort St. George and all other your subordinate ffactories, Care be taken yt. no weighable goods be laden on board any of Our ships before the Comander, Purser or other Officer thereunto appointed shall have seen and adjusted the weight of every parcell that shalbe invoiced to them.

Great loss of weight in ye. Indico sent by Resolucon. wch ye. owners say was never weigh'd to ym. wherfore all weighable goods to be weigd. before the Capptn's, Pursers, etc.

We remain,
Your Loving friends,
JOSA. CHILD, Govr.
WM. SEDGWICKE.
EDWARD DES BOUVERIE.
RI. STERNE.
NATHANIELL TENCHE.
NATHA: MOUNTENEY.
WM. JARRET.
JOHN GOODERE.
THOS. COOKE.

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT ST. GEORGE, DATED MARCH 22, 1687. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 93—97*]

LONDON THE 22TH MARCH 1686/7.

OUR PRESIDENT & COUNCIL
AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

1. Wee have yours of ye 4th Mar... g... Us an acct. of the then posture of our affairs, to which Wee have not much to reply, being in daily expectation of some ships from you, which may bring Us letters of a much later date.

2. Harbin at Syam is notoriously corrupted by ffaulkon, and We have reason to fear will prove a most perfidious person to Us, and have great reason to suspect our succeeding President, Mr. Yales brother, is little better, for reasons which We shall not now give you, but We must tell you that your whole negotiation and pretended interchange of mutuall confidence, kindness, complements and presents between you and ffaulkon is a base business, which We see, and told you of at first, and now is so manifest yt. the very Writers of your ffactory understand it, and therefore Wee the less wonder that the Country Govrs. lay the blame of Coates's insolencyes upon you, for the truth is you have nourish'd those vipers, and the blame will yet lye heavier upon you, as well from the Kings Maty. as from Us, if now you have ye. Kings Proclamation, you do not retrieve ye. Dammage you have thereby done this nation by pursuing and executing those Rebells, which goe in ye. King of Syams ships in hostility against their own Country.

3. The Enclosed is a Copy of our Generall letter Overland to our Genll. and Council of India, Which We have thought fitt to send you for your direction, it containing some things in it, particularly relating to your place, and others relating to all times and places.

4. What We have more to add concerning the ffrench is, that Wee verily believe, ffaulkon will Endeavour to engage them against Us, but that it will be impossible for him by any bribes or perswations to force them into any such hostility against Us, by reason of the firm peace his Maty. hath with the ffrench in Europe.

5. Another Hint concerning them, We think it is requisite to give you, Vizt. that the ffrench ffleet sail'd from Brest but the 2d. Instant, and had on board them as is said above 1,200 men, some say 1,600, with Artificers and souldiers, but We apprehend the more they were the worse it is for them, with respect to mortallity, because at that time of the year, they must have more than ordinary good fortune, if they arrive at Syam, before they have been 12., or 14. months upon ye. sea.

6. Course long cloth, brown, blew, and white, and your ordinary Sallampores you may encrease their Quantity of what writt for by our last ship, and likewise the Broad Cotton Romalls, and broad sail Cloth white, but observe our particular directions given you in our list for the Goodness and prices, and sorts of all Goods We therein writt for.

7. Pursue the Encrease and strengthning of our Pepper, plantacõns on ye West coast of Sumatra, and althô We have and doe totally forbid all private trade for Pepper on the West Coast, yet if you can by your private ships, freemen or otherwise, get any Pepper from our Enemy the Young King of Bantam, or from our Enemy the King of Jambee, or from our old and present friends the Lampooreers[1] or Pollumbanners, or at any other Port or place within the streights of Sunda, We freely permitt the prosecution of those trades to all English men in our service, or under our Protecc̃on, and would have you when they shall bring you Pepper laden from any of those Ports, to buy it of them, on the best terms

[1] Probably people of Lampango and Palembango, on the south of Sumatra and north of Sunda Strait. Vide Map 48 in Vol. XXXIV of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*.

you can for y^e^. Comp^as^. acc^t^., it being a bulky Commodity, and very convenient to fill up our ships especially since We have so advanced the Price, as We hope may recompence part of the Charge We have engaged in upon y^e^ West Coast of Sumatra.

8. But above all things you must effectually prosecute all prudent methods for the Encrease of our Revenue, and enlarging and strengthning our City of Madrass, that your Inhabitants may see what is raised upon them, is employed for y^e^ Ornament strength and security of y^e^ Place of their habitation, and for y^e^ Good of their Posterityes, in which cases the most ignorant of Mankind are not so bruitish but that by degrees they will see their own advantage in the publick security, and that they cannot lay up a better inheritance for their successors and Children, than by making that place defensible and tenable, against all the power of y^e^ Dutch or natives, and when once your City is so populous and strong, it must be through great defect of foresight, or conduct if you do not prevent St. Thoma's ever growing so formidable, as to become a Corrivall with you in trade or anything else.

9. Our President Mr. Yale formerly writt to our Gov^r^. S^r^. Josia Child about turning the Course of the River to a greater distance from y^e^ town and thereby enlarging the Christian town to a square, w^ch^ upon perusall of y^e^ mapp of y^e^ Ground platt, We think is very feiseable, and would be of great advantage in letting the Ground to be built upon for years, you maintaining a Register and preserving our fines and dutyes for registring according to our former order to that purpose, but in such case you must by all means build a Wall on the back side of the Christian town, fronting the River, for as it now is, the River being so shallow, and [noe] wall or Brestwork against it, your Christian town is very weak against any understanding Enemy, and notwithstanding your forts in y^e^. Angles Viz^t^ Charles Tower, and Caldero point, your Christian town may be [easily enter'd] on that side by filling up the River with ffaggotts, which 2. or 300 bold men would doe in six hours time, you having no brestwork to defend the River with small shott.

10. And if you should raise a fund to remove the Course of y^e^ River and build a wall or breast work against it as aforesaid, We apprehend the Curtain being so long between Charles[1] tower and Caldero[2] point would be weak unless against the Gate w^ch^. you make towards the River you erect some horn work on y^e^ other side of the River to defend that Gate and your Curtain.

11. Now whilst the Dutch and the Mogull are jarr'd with the King of Gulcondah, is your only time to bethink yourselves of what ever is necessary to be had by Phirmaunds &c^a^ from that King, and to give him all the secrett Countenance and advice in his affairs that you can, and assistance likewise underhand for his money, so as not to make any Warr with the Dutch, but wisely to improve the present advantage for y^e^ Good of y^e^ English Nation, which the Dutch never omitt to doe for themselves upon all such occasions, and you may the better avow the Doing thereof, that is of giving assistance to y^e^ King of Gulcondah, if at the same time We should happen to be In Hostility with the Mogull for the recovery of our rights in Bengall.

12. We know the King of Gulcondah is rich enough to pay for any Assistance you give him, either in Diamonds or Pag^os^., and therefore Wee intend to be at no charge for his Assistance against y^e^ Mogull, But what he shall pay Us for beforehand, or put Dyamonds into your hands for y^e^. security of our Payment, both principall and Interest, which We thought fitt to hint unto you, least an ill use should be made of this intimacõn as there was formerly of y^e^ liberty We gave you of sending Us China Goods, which liberty had you mannged with moderacõn and discretion, might have prov'd of infinite advantage to your selves and y^e^

[1] The south-west angle of Fort St. George bore this name. *Vestiges of Old Madras*, Vol. 1, pp. 535, 536.

[2] This refers to the bastion at the north-west angle of Fort St. George. It was derived possibly from the 'Caldera bushes' that then were growing around it. *Vestiges of Old Madras, Vol. 1, p. 367, foot note 2.*

freemen of Madrass, as well as to Us, and the English Navigation in Generall, but making too much hast to be rich, is alwayes the Destruction of y^e^. best designes for publick Good, and for y^e^ most part of those private mens fortunes, that are the Instruments & causers of such publick disappointm^t^. and nocument.

13. To retrieve (if it be possible) for your own sakes as well as ours, and for the Growth and encrease of the trade of Madrass, Wee propounded lately a new Method for the investing part of our stock in your own, or others particular China Goods, on such termes, as yo^r^. selves or our free Merch^ts^. at y^e^. ffort might be gainers by the trade as well as the Company, well knowing that nothing can go on prosperously long, except all Partyes find a Conveniency in it, which you never thought of when you sent Us that trash and trumpery, at such high rates which We have so often complain'd of, and now lest that Expedient we formerly propounded should not answer the End designed in all respects, Wee shall make you another proposition which is this.

14. We do for the space of 3 years ensuing the Arrivall of these letters to your hands, give leave to you, or any of our ffreemen of Madrass, whether they be English or Natives, Portugeez, Gentues, or Moores to consign to y^e^. Company, musk, Pelongs, or any other sort of China Goods, upon the Companys own terms of freight, and for their own proper Acc^ts^. & Risque, which the Company will sell for them here by the Candle, and make them full returnes in Dollars or Gold, deducting only 20 ℔ cent for sales & three ℔ cent for returnes in lieu of the Comp^as^. Generall Charges, w^ch^. is the very least that We can compute upon our own investments for our Generall Charge in Europe and India, this We say as to all China Goods notw^th^.standing they are prohibited in Chr̃eparty, and for such Goods as are not prohibited in our Charterpartyes We gave a greater Latitude in our last [letters] which We shall not need to repeat here, by which you will see that We are no less solicitous for your lawfull advantage, and the Good of all his Ma^ty's^. (and by his Ma^ty's^. leave) our subjects at Madrass, than We are for ourselves, and if you doe your parts We cannot see but that City of Madrass may in a few years come to be the greatest City in Asia for strength, as well as for Commerce, Cleanness and ornament.

15. In order whereunto We must alwayes recommend to you to use y^e^. Natives that are obedient to our Laws, with all justice, humanity and Kindness, giving them an Assurance, that We will never oppress them nor their posterityes, but they shall for ever remain in the same freedom, as if they were English men born, and enjoy a Perpetuall liberty as to their Religion, and property, as to their Inheritances Goods and Chattells, But they must never expect to be freer than all ffree men are in England, Who according to their Abilityes must and do universally pay to y^e^. support of y^t^. Good Government, which protects them in the Enjoyment of that liberty [and] Property, and defends them from the Assaults of all Enemyes, or such as sh^d^. make them afraid.

16. But as We have often told you, it is not enough for y^e^ preservation of Peace and Prosperity in any place to be just and kind to y^e^ orderly & obed^t^., but you must be severe and rigorous to such as shall attempt y^e^ least disturbance of y^e^. Publick Tranquility by word, or deed, especially against the heads or first Movers of any sedition or ffaction, a few Examples of your speedy justice and prudence in that Kind will create you permanent peace, ease, and quietness, as Wee have found by Experience in S^t^. Helena, where only 7. of the late Rebells were executed, and about 20. banish'd, But if one or two of the Ring Leaders had been executed when they rebell'd first, twenty years agoe, We are apt to think, the lives of these men might have been saved.

17. Wee have said before that We would contrive the liberty for Private Persons to consign China Goods the Comp^a^. for y^e^ space of 3 years, But it is very likely after some Tryall We may make that liberty perpetuall, and it is as likely that some Persons there, which may think the terms propounded hard, not knowing what the Comp^as^. Gen^ll^. Charge amounts to, may upon tryall find such an advantage by the Justness and speed in making them returnes, & y^e^. Benefitt of

selling at y^e^. Comp^as^. Candle, find their acc^t^. come out as profitably by consigning their Goods to the Company, at 20 ℔ Cent Commission and Generall Charges, as they could do by sending the same Goods to any Private Person, paying only 5. ℔ cent for sale and returnes, which Liberty now granted We would have you promulge to all Persons, that such as will may make a tryall at 1^st^. and afterwards proceed to greater adventures, as they shall find their advantage more or less by it.

18. The Resolucõn is gone Down to Erith, and We hope may be in the Downes by the 10^th^. April, and save her passage to you, she will have on board in money and goods, as We compute to the value of £150,000, and she is the last ship you are to expect from Us this year.

We doe not give order to our Commanders, to receive on board any Passengers, Man Woman or Child, untill they have respectively paid into our Cashier £12 each for our Permission (which is something but very little towards our Generall Charge) and We require you with the same strictness to observe our former order in that respect, and if our Comanders should bring any Passengers over without your order, We would deduct £100. each out of their freight for that offence. So commending you and our affaires to the guidance and blessing of y^e^. Almighty, We remaine.

Your loving friends,

Edw^d^. Des Bouverie.	Worcester.	Jos^a^. Child, Gov^r^.
James Edwards.	Tho. Rawlinson.	Ben. Bathurst Dep^y^.
Hen. Johnson.	Ro. Marshall.	Robert Knightley.
James Ward.	Ri. Steerne.	George Boun.
William Sedgwick.	W^m^ Jarrett.	John Goodere.
John Moore.		Natha. Mounteney.
		Nathaniel Tenche.

General Letter to Fort St. George, dated March 23, 1687. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 8, *p.* 98.]

London y^e^. 23^th^. March 1686/7.

Our President & Council
of Fort St. George.

Since Writing the foregoing of y^e^. 22^th^. Instant We have given licence to M^r^. Francis Gosfright to ship on board y^e^. Resolution for his own acc^t^. 2 Chests of Riccaduty [1] Corrall he paying Us here 12 ℔ Cent upon its true Value and 5 ℔ Cent Custom to you there, and you are to take notice that for y^e^. future 5 ℔ Cent Custom is to be paid you as well for all Goods and Merchandizes, y^t^. shall be permitted by Us to be sent on any of our shipping for your Presidency upon their landing with you, as well as for Wines other Liquores all other goods whatsoever imported at our City of Madrass, which is to be observed as a Generall Rule.

We understand that our Dyers in y^e^. Bay are a very great charge to Us, and of little use, We would therefore have you advise our Agent & Council, that they send them all home except one, whom they find to be most serviceable, or at least to dismiss them out of our service or permitt them to go to the ffort to remain there as free Traders if they think fit, But, however, to dismiss them presently from our charge and service, having found them to be but a sort of lazy bungling workemen, which do not earn their Victualls.

℔ 1000 to Capt. Payne.

In stating y^e^. acco^t^. wi^th^. y^e^. Owners of the Resolucõn for her last Voyage, we have debited them Three hundred, twenty five pounds being for 1000 dollars that we

[1] This is supposed to be a corruption of the Marathi compound, *rakta-dhâtu*, meaning red mineral. Refer to the remarks in footnote 98 on page 196 of Pringle's '*Diary and Consultation Book*' 1685.

are informed Cap^{t}. Payne late Commander of that ship, rec^{d}. from you, thô there appears no receipt for the same, nor any advice from you of giving him that supply, only Captaine Heath informed us thereof. We desire therefore you will examine the truth of it, and advise us thereof by y^{e}. next, ffor if he were not furnished therewith by you, The Owners are to be repaid it here with interest of five ℔ Cent from this day, We remaine

Yo^{r}. Loving ffriends

[T.O. Copy is 'Signed by order of the Govern^{r}. and Company Ro. Blackborne.']

Worcester
Tho. Rawlinson
Ro. Marshall
Ri. Sterne
Jam. Ward
Robert Knightley.
Jos^{a}. Child, Gov^{r}.
Ben. Bathurst Dep^{y}.
George Boun
John Goodere
Natha. Mounteney
W^{m}. Jarrett
Jeremy Sambrook

General letter to Surat, dated March 23, 1687. Received October 15, 1687. Per Resolution. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 101–106.*]

London the 23th. March 1686/7.

Our Generall & Cuncill of India.

1. The 28th. ffebruary last we rec^{d}. your overland Letters of the 12th. March 1685/6 & 22th. Aprill following, to the materiall parts whereof we shall now reply.

2. Our Europe ships Success, London & Worcester, we hope arrived with you in a good time, & this year we have sent away our ships with large stocks to Bombay earlier then ever they went to the North of India, Since this Comp^{a}. began.

3. Faulcons villany, (you know), we long since foresaw and early lamented the misfortune you were drawn into by our too mild President Gyfford, & some of his crafty Councill, to send any ship or Factors thither, ffaulcons way being (which we said 3 years since) to bribe and flatter our Chief servants in India, and corrupt any of our ffactors att Siam, that are corruptible, or destroy such as are stanch in principalls of honesty, representing them here and to you, & our Councill of ffort St. George, as ffooles, unmannerly fellowes, or madmen, while his drift is evidently to destroy the Comp^{as}. interest, & indeed all the traders of Siam, but his own, which he calls the Kings interest, & this he has perpetrated to such a degree, that he Justly fears his deserv'd revenge from us, & itt may be from the Dutch likewise, which has forced him in his Masters name to the craving of succors from the King of ffrance, & upon what secret tearms we know not. The Siam Embassad^{rs}. lately in ffrance have prevailed with the ffrench King to send them home with 7 ships, whereof 3 are great men of Warr, & the 4 others we hear, are considerable ships of force, & have many Souldiers on board them & 300 Artificers, which we suppose are intended to build some strong ffortication in the River of Siam, which we believe the ffrench will be wise enough to keep for themselves, & not for ffaulkon or the King of Siam, but in regard there is a firm peace between our Sovereign Lord the King, & the ffrench King, we hope the ffrench Officers att Siam, & the Comman^{drs}. of the ffrench ships, will be wiser then to interpose in the Quarrell between us & the King of Siam, for which purpose we would have you att all times, to use the best arguments you can with them, upon all occations, & att the same time, to continue your hostillity against the King of Siam, & his subjects, & all that you can to the honour & advantage of this Company.

Among other arguments (if there be occation for itt) you may insinuate to the ffrench that our having a Warr att present with the King of Siam, is so farr from

being any prejudice to their affairs, that itt is the greatest advantage to them, that could possibly happen, because by reason thereof, they may obtain better tearmes from the King of Siam, then they could ever hope for, if we were att peace with him.

4. Your intended Settlem^{t}. att Attinga, is of great advantage, & ought to be cultivated with all your care, & secured if itt be possible, with a good ffort, great quantities of Pepper being the most desireable commodity, we can expect from you, having with a little contrivance & some confederacy with private Dutch men att Amsterdam (great Engrossers of Pepper) raised that Commodity att our present sale to above ll^{d}. ℔ pound.

5. Itt is very pleasing to us to observe the good esteem you have of our kindness intended our worthy Generall, who hath served us so well, & so faithfully that wee have reason not only frequently to commend him, but to recommend his example to all that shall hereafter succeed as Chief of the English Nation in India.

6. Cap^{t}. Tyrrell did very well, & commendably in seizing the Blessing, but very ill in not obeying our Generalls order, which he is commanded to do, by his Instructions from the King.

7. Hereafter give Instructions to all our ships which sail in India, to bring up to our Admiralty Court, all ships that sail with English Coulors, without our Licence or yours, & proceed to condemn them, in our Admiralty Court, according to our Charter, & take out all English men you can meet with, in any Indian ships or Jaunks[1], & proceed against them in your Courts, according to his Maj^{tys}. late Proclamation, itt being our resolution (with his Maj^{tys}. approbation) to make all persons know, that there is an English politicall Governm^{t}. in India, & that English men having the same authority from their Sovereign, as the Dutch have from their Sovereigns, know as well how to Govern in India with coercive Laws, & a strict execution of those Laws, as the Dutch do, untill you come to that, you are not a settled nation in India, exercising Sovereign authority, but a few scatter'd English merchants, destitute of wisdom conduct or order, not fitt to keep the Dominion you have already in India, much less to encrease itt.

8. The troubles we have in Bengall, & many other accidents which we foresee may happen within the revolution of 3 or 4 years, give us cause to confirm unalterably our former orders, that all our great ships shall hereafter constantly ride & take in their Loadings att Bombay & not in Swally[2], nor in the Rivers[3] mouth, except only such as take in Moors goods upon freight for the Red Sea, Gulph of Persia, or other places, & we do hereby likewise enjoyn you to ffortifie Bombay strongly, & keep your Souldiers in constant exercise & under Strict discipline, as if the Enemy were att the Gate.

9. The Interloper Andaluzia is yet under the Kings Arrest in Portsmouth Harbour, & we beleive there will speedily be an order to land her goods into the Kings Warehouses there, & that both ship & goods will be condemned to the use ½ of his Maj^{ty}. & the other ½ to the Comp^{a}. according to our Charter, upon which the Libell is grounded in the Admiralty Court, there are but two more abroad, Beer & Goodlad, if either of them come hither, they are like to fare no better.

10. We are so well satisfied of the sincerity & abillity of our present Gen^{ll}. S^{r}. John Child whom we have order'd (when he sees itt most convenient for our service) to go with his family to Fort S^{t}. George, to inspect & settle our affairs & Government there, that we doe hereby conferr upon him singly in his own person, with or without the consent of our respective Councills of Bombay or Surat, to settle our said Councills of Bombay & Surat, & all subordinate ffactorys to our late

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[1] Probably it refers to 'Junk'—a large Eastern ship, *Hobson-Jobson*, p. 472.

[2] The once familiar name of the roadstead north of the mouth of the Tapti, where ships for Surat usually anchored and discharged or took in cargo. From Ar. *Sawâbil*, 'The shores' (?) or Skt, *Sivâlaya* 'abode of Siva.' *Hobson-Jobson*, p. 833.

[3] Evidently this refers to 'Surat River's mouth.'

Generall & Councill of Surat, in Persia, or upon the Coast of Mallabar in such manner & form as he shall think most available for our service, & to place & displace, advance or depress any of our Councellors, or Servants att his own discretion, & as he shall think may tend most to the quiet, & well mannagement of our affairs, during his absence att ffort S^{t}. George, & this absolute power we do confirme upon him personally to be exercised and enjoy'd & to be obeyed & consented to by all persons in our service for the space of 3 months, from & after the arrivall of these our Letters to your hands, & no longer, itt being our resolution that all Mercantile affairs, & the mannagm^{t}. of our business, shall run in its usuall Channell, after the expiration of the 3 months aforesaid, this being only a temporary expedient, to settle all things perfectly well, & to our good Generalls satisfaction, before he leaves the northern parts of India, for which we could cite antient examples of wise Nations, which usually ended in good Success, as we hope this will do.

11. By our Fort Letters we observe the Dutch have commenced a warr against the King of Gulcondah, whilst he is under oppression by the Mogulls forces, which is the only time for our President & Councill there, if they have but competent understandings to fall into a strict confederacy with the King & Court of Gulcondah, & give him what private assistance they can for his mony, & to get from him a Phirmaund for Coyning of Rupees, &c^{a}. & their passing currently in all parts of his dominions, & for the enjoyment of S^{t}. Thoma under the same rent wee pay for Fort S^{t}. George, or as they can agree, & some further enlargement of Territory, without our Citty of Madras, which may be most convenient for them, this we note to you that in any other such occation, you may be ready to take time by the forelock, & not loose an advantagious oppertunity by staying 18 months for orders from us.

12. We conclude the Mogull will be angry att our removing our force & keeping itt constantly att Bombay, but we vallue not his anger, nor our own loss if any happen thereby, being resolved for the future to maintain the honour of our King and nation, & in no place to submitt to worse terms or usage than the Dutch have, & who ever will not allow us the same quarter, wee would have you proclame them Enemies, & get what you can from such Princes or their subjects, without putting us to an unnecessary charge, more then what you get, will sufficiently recompensate.

13. You know the wrongs the young king of Bantam, & the King of Jambee have formerly done us, whom therefore we do repute as Enemys, & the King of Siam, & therefore you may give Commissions of Warr, Mart or Countermart, to any private ships against them, or any other Princes & their Subjects, whom you shall declare warr against, or make any just Warr upon, for damages done us in India, but you must give no such private Commissions to any Commander, untill you have taken very good Security in our Admiralty Court, that no such Commander, nor any of his ships company, shall do any hurt or damage to any Princes or people of India, that we have no hostillity with, & that they will make no imbezlement of ships or Goods, untill they are condemned as Enemys ships or Goods, in some of our Courts of Admiralty in India, & that they will justly & truly pay to us the $\frac{1}{8}$ part of the produce of any such ships or Goods.

14. In our Generalls absence we do appoint Mr. Zinzan to preside over all our affairs, military & civill att Bombay, Surat, & all other places, on the north of India, & wee do hereby require our Deputy Govern^{r}. S^{r}. John Wyborn, & all other our Councellors & Servants to yeild him obedience accordingly, in the absence of our Generall S^{r}. John Child, and that his title, or stile shall be President, & his residence either att Surat or Bombay, as he shall judge most beneficiall to our service, & from the time of our Generalls departure, we think fitt and hereby order, our said intended Presidents Sallary Mr. Zinzan, to be encreased to £300 ℔ Ann to be paid one half in India & the other half in England, att his return according to antient Custome.

15. We confirm our resolution formerly hinted to you to have two constant resident ffactorys in Persia, desiring our Generall before he leaves Bombay to see those ffactorys well fixed & setled, and that we may have constant Books of Accompts, and advices from them hereafter, in which respect they have been abominably defective for many years, as also in letting our goods lye spoiling by the walls, while their heads and hands have been so full of their own, & other private business, & itt is not possible but where such great & pernicious neglects are for so many years togeather, there must be great evill & mischief done to the Comp^{a}. many other wayes, which we are not so sencible of att this distance, which you being nearer may understand, & reform with enquiry & care, which we are sure will not be wanting in our present Generall, & hope will be continued by our succeeding President M^{r}. Zinzan, that all things on that side of India may remain in that happy posture, they now are, & have been for some years, that we know not how to commend you enough, nor you how enough to express your thankfullness for our good acceptance of your discreet and faithfull services.

16. Bafts broad white & blew, are the best commodities you can send us of Callicoe, which we note to you, that you may exceed our former orders therein, as also in Chints broad of all sorts, whereof some to be of grave & cloth coulors, with the greatest variety you can invent, they being become the Wear of Ladies of the greatest quality, which they wear on the outside of Gownes and manteaus, which they line with Velvett and Cloth of Gold.

Of Tapseils broad & niccanees you may likewise exceed our former orders, for we have not one peece of that Commodity left in our warehouses.

Wee have written before that after the expiration of the 3 months, the Dictatorian power, which we have given our Generall, Our mercantile affairs & the mannagement of them, shall return into their ordinary antient course, But our meaning therein is not that any thing our Generall shall order or appoint or any person that he shall preferr, suspend or expell our service, or advance or depress, should be restored again, to their former stations, except by direction from our selves, or by Consultation in Councill, Our President Mr. Zinzan being present, & concurring in such restoration or alteration, So commending you & our affairs to the protection of the Almighty we remain.

Your loving friends

HENRY JOHNSON.
EDW^{D}. DES BOUVERY.
WILL^{M}. SEDGWICK.
NATH: MOUNTENEY.
JOHN GOODERE.
NATH: TENCHE.
W^{M}. JARRETT.
JAMES WARD.
JOSIA CHILD Gov^{r}.
BEN: BATHURST Dep^{ty}.
JAMES EDWARDS.
RICH^{D}. STERNE.
JOHN MOORE.
ROB^{T}. MARSHALL.
ROB^{T}. KNIGHTLEY.
GEORGE BOUN.
THO. RAWLINSON.

GENERAL LETTER TO SURAT, DATED APRIL 8, & OCTOBER 15, 1685.
[*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, p. 109.*]

OUR GOVERNOR AND COUNCILL
ATT SURRATT.

By an aggreement made between us and S^{r}. John Chardin about a parcell of Corrall Beads bought of him in May 1683 upon Condition for y^{e}. sume of £ 732–17 s. v^{e} s^{d} Corrall Beads being as Viz^{t}.

					oz.		s.	£	s.	d.
No. 1	...	4	Bunches wt.	... ...	171	at	5	42	15	0
2	...	1	„	... ...	360½		10	180	0	0
3	...	4	„	... ...	128	19	19	121	12	0
4	...	1	„	... ...	33½		22	36	17	0
5	...	2	„	... ...	56½		27	76	5	0
6	...	2	„	... ...	34½		38	65	1	6
7	...	3	„	... ...	51½		40	103	0	0
8	...	1	„	... ...	37		58	107	6	0

In pursuance of which aggreement y^{e} s^{d} S^{r}. John Chardin hath repaid unto us y^{e} full sume aboves^{d} & £ 139–7 s. for ꝑmission freight Interest and all other Charges here of Exportation.

You are therefore hereby required to deliver unto y^{e} s^{d}. S^{r}. John Chardin or his order endorsed on these presents y^{e} s^{d}. Corrall Beads as they were inclosed in a Chest marked N^{o}. S and sent to you by y^{e} ship Scipio in her last voyage to Surratt free of all Charges and pretences w^{t}soever as to y^{e} Company saving such Charges as you paid for Custome & landing we remain.

Your loving friends

BERKLEY	JOSEPH ASHE Govern^{r}.
JOHN MOORE	JOS^{A} CHILD, Deputy
JOHN PAIGE	BEN. BATHURST
HEN. JOHNSON	JA. EDWARDS
EDWARD RUDGE	JEREMY SAMBROOK
EDWARD BOUVERE.	PETER DANIEL
	SAM. DASEWOOD
	HENRY SERLE

LONDON Y^{E}
15TH XBER 1668.

The Hon^{ble} y^{e} Generall & Councill shall be pleased to remitt y^{e} parcell of Corrall Beads contäining in y^{e} these presents unto Mr. Dan^{l}. Chardin merch^{t}. my Brother or unto his order

[Copia John Stables Sec^{y}.] CHARDIN.

GENERAL LETTER TO BAY, DATED APRIL 8, 1687. RECEIVED, OCTOBER 15, 1687. PER RESOLUTION. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, p. 113.*]

LONDON THE 8TH APRIL 1687.

OUR AGENT AND COUNCILL
OF HUGHLEY.

With this you have a copy of our last of 7th January sent on y^{e} ship W^{m}son; and y^{e} Persia Merch^{t}. being not yet arrived, We remain wthout any account of y^{e} state of our [affairs] wth. you, and so have not made any particular provision of moneys for your Agency out of this ships cargo but have left it to y^{e} discretion of our President and Councill of y^{e} Fort to accommodate you in all respects as shall be needfull.

The 7th Instant ye Interloper Andaluzia, and her Cargoe were condemned in ye Admiralty Court ½ to ye use of his Majesty, and ye other ½ to ye Company, and ye ship and goods are now in our possession, and ye Marshall of ye Admiralty coming about from Portsmouth. When she arrives We shall take her Cargo into our Warehouses, and make sale there[of] at our candle, But wth: aboundance of charge and great [soli]citations, and partly wth: our own consent ye Proprietors have obtained a promise from us, under ye Hand of [our] Governor and Deptty. Govr. wth. his Majestys approbation yt. ⅘ of ye proceed of ye charge shall be accompted to ye Proprietors, But their trouble and 5 months charge have been such an excessive expence to ym., yt. you need not [fear] of hearing of any more English Interlopers in India during this Generation.

The proprietors in Capt. Beer, and Goodlad make ye same overture of Agreemt. before their Interloping ships arrive but we shall not accept of yt.

A list of ye Andaluzia's Cargo you have enclosed.

We would have you by every shipping send us a List of all our Servants, Souldiers, and Factors, under yor. Agency, wth an acct. of such as do decease, and ye Day of their death. So commending you and our affairs to ye guidance and protection of ye Almighty, We remain

Your loving Friends,

Tho. Cook	Josa: Child Govr.
Edwd. de Bouverie	Ri. Sterne
Wm. Sedgwicke	George Boun
Nathaniel Tenche.	Ro. Marshall
	Natha: Mounteney
	John Moore
	Jo. Creed
	Jeremy Sambrook

General Letter to Fort St. George, Dated April 8, 1687. [*Pulbic Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 1171—21.*]

London the 8th of April 1687.

Our President & Council
at Fort St. George.

1. The foregoing are Duplicates of what we have written to you by an Overland Conveyance of the 22th and 23th of March last to which we refer.

We have taken great care this year about our Gold, having caused it all to be remelted into flatt Cakes, to avoid (if possible) any deceit, that may be supposed by you to be done here, We do therefore require you to be very exact in the taking of your Essayes of this parcell, and to give us a particular account of every Cake, how much Alloy you put therein, and what each Cake produceth in Pago. We intending for ye future to have all our Ingotts of Silver, except Spanish Barrs & Coines, melted down in such flatt Cakes, in which our design is to prevent all Practices of fraud there in India, as we have taken care to do here.

50,000 neck-clothes to be sent more then before wrote for, according to ye muster.

2. We have in our list of goods sent ℔ the Williamson (Copy whereof comes herewith) advised how many Neck-Cloths are to be sent us, since which, we finding another sort brought home in private trade, A muster whereof comes enclosed, We would have you send us 50,000 of the same, striped with Red at ye ends and downe the sides, over and above the quantities of the other Neck-Cloths written for. We cannot apprehend They should be a farthing dearer.

Passengers home to pay £26 pas. each whether

3. We send you herewith a List of the free Merchants & Women, which goe by this ship, and have paid each their 12 permission, requiring you to give no order to any ship hereafter to receive on board any Passengers for England.

except such of our servants, as are newly out of their times of service, before they have each of them paid into our Cash 26 Pag° for Permission, towards our generall charge, as we take here of all Persons, as well Children and servants as others, indifferently and indispensibly, and send us by every ship a List of the Persons from whom you receive this duty, that we may observe your truth therein, and the graduall encrease of this revenue.

men, women or children & Servts.

4. We cannot doubt, but having such a force in India, you will reprize from our enemyes, something considerable towards the injuries they did us, and by what we have [writt before] in this Lre, you will see in what Commo[dities its most proper] for you to invest such casuall encrease of our stock.

5. We have hinted before, that the Lampooners are our ffriends, and so they are of themselves, if they will trade w^th^ you, and pretend not to be subjects of the young King of Bantam, But if they pretend that, and thereupon refuse to commerce with us, we shall looke upon them as Enemyes and subjects of that King, and consequently pursue them with all acts of hostility.

The Lampooners our ffriends.

6. You are to understand, that in India, the Kings Charters and our Letters are Lawes to all that are in subjection to us, and so are the By-Lawes and Orders you make there, untill they are repealed by the King or our selves, And therefore its necessary, our Judge Advocate with y^e^ help of some Writer, should out of our last tenn years years Lres, draw a Schedule of Lawes and orders, which you have received from us, And likewise make a Schedule of all your own by-lawes and Orders: All which should be inserted into a book, for that purpose, and kept with the Judge Advocate or his Register, & one Copy likewise thereof to lye alwayes on yo^r^ Council board unto w^ch^ any Persons may have access, when y^e^ Councill is not sitting, and one Copy of that book (when you have perfected it in a methodicall way, We would have you send to us, as the Dutch do to their Superiours from Batavia every year.

Kings Charter & Honbl. Compas. Lres our Lawes.

a Schedule of all By Lawes & ordrs. to be kept by Judge Advocate.

ffree for all ℔sons to Peruse.

7. If any Commanders or Officers of ships or others refuse to pay the Custome at ffort St. George of Wine or any other sort of Liquor or goods, We would have you send us an acco^t^. of the value of such Custome, which we will retain in our hands here out of their freight, and over and above withdraw any allowance we have accustomaryly made to them, or any of their officers, for small quantityes of prohibited Goods at their returne home, and if they pretend that old foolish objection, that such Liquors &c^a^ have paid excise and Custome here to his Ma^ty^. already, we suppose you are wise enough of your selves to tell them, That which they likewise know already, that all such Liquors w^ch^. have paid Dutyes in England, must notw^thstanding that, pay the Dutyes of Ireland, Scotland, Barbadoes, Virginia or any other place or plantation of his Ma^tys^. when they arrive there.

Comdrs & officers to pay Custome for all goods Licquors &c.a

8. The marriage of our soldiers to the Native Women of ffort S^t^. George formerly recommended to you, is a [matter of such] consequence to posterity, that we shalbe content to [encourage] it, with some expence, and have been thinking for y^e^. future to appoint a Pag°. to be paid to the Mother of any Child, [that] shall hereafter be born, of any such future marriage, upon the day the Child is Christned, if you think this small encouragement will encrease the number of such marriages, [but] if you think it will not have any considerable Effect y^t^. way we had better keep our mony, which we leave to yo^r^. consideration w^th^. y^e^. liberty to do therein, as you shall think best.

Encourage souldiers [mariage] wth. [country woman.]

1 pag at Christening of each Child.

9. Among the great number of Merchants ffactors and Writers, which we have under yo^r^. Presidency, It is not improbable, that there may be some Idle, some debaucht and some insolent and negligent Persons, that may be guilty of severall sorts of Crimes or infidelity or of refractoryness, and disobedience to their superiours, against all such crimes or others not here enumerated, You are to make By-Lawes, with smaller & greater ffines annexed, and forfeitures to y^e^. Comp^a^. according to the nature of the Offence, and y^e^. ability of the person, and thereupon to do justice, upon y^e^. Offenders by fines, Corporall punishment,

to fine or punish all refractory persons.

Imprisonment, Suspention or expulsion from our service, as our Court of Admiralty & [Civill] Law, or our Court Martiall, shall think fit, and as the case shall require, according to the Lawes made by us or [your]selves, and to do justice there upon the place, as the [Dutch] do at Batavia, without sending any home for such mis[demean^{rs}] except we write for them our selves, and suffer no English man whatsoever to live in India, contrary to [his] Ma^{tys}. late proclamation, concerning w^{ch}. we have form[erly] writt you so largely that we shall need to say no more on y^{t}. subject now, being rather in expectation to hear of your performance, that you may maintain in India [a regular] face and forme of Authority and government and that all English men may pay y^{e}. same duty & obedience to their [super]riours in India, as the Dutch or French or any other Europeans do in those parts of the world.

noe person to Live in India contrary to his Majties. proclamation.

10. Mr. Christopher Hatton having been a long time in our Employment and dying in our service, possest of a considerable Estate, leaving two Daughters his onely children [very young] and all his Trustees in India, being since also dead, We do [appoint] and recommend to yo^{r}. especiall care the getting in and remitting his estate to Mr. Robert Hatton his Brother and Executor for the benefitt of the said Children here in London with him, To w^{ch}. end he hath sent over an Authority or Deputacon to our Presid^{t}. Elihu Yale Esq., Mr. Thomas Lucas, Mr. Robert Freeman, & Mr. John Wilcox, according to an order and Decree of the high Court of Chancery, In y^{e}. execution whereof We do order and direct, that our President Elihu Yale, Thomas Lucas, Rob^{t}. Freeman and John Wilcox, do and will use their utmost Endeavours in the premises, and y^{e}. rather for that y^{e}. said high Court of Chancery by y^{e}. same order & decree hath recommended the same to our Care.

to take care of & recovr. the estate of Mr. Hatton, deceased.

11. We have received the enclosed Lre & Peticon from Mr. Ords ffather and Brother, and shall do them all the right we can here, as we would have you do there according to their desires adviseing us, what Estate of Mr. Ords dec^{d}. you can collect into our Cash, but we must likewise tell you, besides these 2 Relacons of Mr. Ords dec^{d}. there is an other Person, which pretends to a right, in what Mr. Ord left, so that you are not to part with any of Mr. Ords mony out of our Cash, untill you have our own Order, and that the right of Administracon be determined here.

Mr. Ords Estate not to be p^{d}. wthout orders from [. . .]

12. The 7th instant the Interloper Andalusia and her Cargo were condemned in the Admiralty Court ½ to the use of his Ma^{ty}. and the other ½ to the Company, and the ship and Goods are now in our possession, and the Marshall of the Admiralty coming about from Portsmouth: When she arrives we shall take her Cargo into our Warehouses, and make sale thereof at our Candle; But with abundance of mony & great sollicitacon, and partly with our own consent, the Proprietors have obtained a promise from us under the hand of our Governour & Dep^{ty}. Gov^{r}. with his Ma^{tys}. approbacon that ⅓ of y^{e}. proceed of the Cargo shall be accompted to the Proprietors, but their trouble and five months charge hath been such an excessive expence to them, that you need not fear of hearing of any more English Interlopers in India during this Generacon.

Andalusia Condemd. [by y^{e}.] Court Admiralty [½ to] king & ½ to Comp^{a}.

Consideration [. . . .] proceede] of her [. . .] to be given to ye. [prop]. rietors.

13. The Proprietors in Cap^{t}. Beer and Goodlad, make us the same overture of Agreement before their Interloping ships arrive, but we will not accept of that. A list of the Andalusias Cargo you have enclosed.

14. Let it be your constant care to send us yearly a List of all our servants, soldiers and ffactors under your Presidency, with an accompt of such as do decease, and the day of their death, and of all Marriages and Buryalls, which we have formerly writt for, But hath not according to our desires been so punctually complyed with by you, give the like Order to our Chiefe and Council in the Bay. So commending you and our Affaires to y^{e}. Guidance and Blessing of the Almighty We remaine.

A List of all Liveing & dead Psons & marryages.

We have entertain'd Mr. Benjamin Chadwick, Mr. John Foquett, and Mr. Herbert Sawyer to serve Us as Factors in your Presidency at the Sallary of 15£ ℔ Ann for 5. years, and Enoch Walsh, Matthew Brian, Michael Clipsham, & Jonathan White as Writers at the Usuall Sallary of 5£ ℔ Ann, But Enoch Walsh having serv'd Us 2. years in y^e^. accomptants Office his Indenture is only for 3 years, and y^e^. rest for 5. years, as Usual, who take their passage on this ship.

After you have perused the Enclosed to our Gen^l^. and Council of India let them be sent forward by the first Opportunity that offers.

Your Loving Friends,
Jos^A^. Child Gov^r^.
John Moore.
Robert Kingsley.
Natha. Mounteney.
Ro. Marshall.
George Boun.
Nathaniel Tenche.
Wm. Jarrett.
Ri. Sterne.
Jo. Creed.
Tho. Cooke.
Edward Des Bouverie.
Wm. Sedgwicke.

Order of Court touching China Goods etc^A^., dated April 20, 1687.

At a Court of Comittees held on the 20^th^. of April 1687.

Whereas this Court have by their letter of y^e^. 2^d^. of March last given leave to the President and Council, ffactors & servants at ffort S^t^. George & all other ffreemen of the City of Madrass, whether Natives, Portugeez, Gentues or Moors for the space of three years to comence from & after the arrivall of the ship Resolucon at Fort S^t^. George (whither she is now bound) to consign to the Company, Musk, Pelongs, or any other sort of China Goods, upon the Companyes own terms of freight, and for their own Proper acc^t^. and risque, which the Comp^a^. will here sell for them by their Candle, and make them full returnes in Dollars or Gold, deducting only 20 ℔ Cent for sales, and 3 ℔ cent for returnes in lieu of the Comp^as^. Generall charges, notwithstanding the said China Goods be prohibited in Charterparty.

Liberty to send home China goods

On further consideration thereof had, It is hereby order'd and declared, that the same liberty is, and shall be granted to all Persons here in England to direct their Correspondents to India to lade for their respective Acc^ts^. what China Goods they shall think fitt on the terms following Viz^t^. 20 ℔ Cent of their nett produce at the Comp^as^. sale to be deducted, which 20 ℔ Cent upon the nett proceed shall be in full for permission and commission for the Comp^as^. selling the Goods, and also 2. ℔ Cent permission out, if returnes of the Produce be sent to India again in Bullion.

Nevertheless the Comp^a^. do declare that all China Musk (being a Commodity of small bulk) shall be permitted to be brought home on their own or their freighted ships, paying for its permission but 10. ℔ Cent of the nett Produce of the sale, and the like liberty and licence is given for all Agra Patana & Pegu or any other kind of Musk or Civett.

Tho. Rawlinson.
Ro. Marshall.
Jam: Ward.
Jo. Creed.
Nathaniell Tenche.
R. Hutchinson.

Jos^A^. Child, Gov^r^.
Robert Kingsley.
Wm. Sedgwick.
George Boun.
Ri. Sterne.
Natha: Mounteney.
Wm. Jarrett.
John Goodere.

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT S^{T}. GEORGE, DATED JUNE 6, 1687. RECEIVED MARCH 30, 1688. PER OVERLAND. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 129—139.*]

LONDON Y^{E}. 6th. JUNE 1687.

OUR PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL
AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Letters received.

We are now to accuse receipt of yo^{rs}. of the 28th. June, & yo^{r}. publick and secret letter of 4th. October last by y^{e}. Kempthorn, and to advise you of y^{e}. arrival of her in Company with y^{e}. Chandois from Bencoolen, y^{e}. Persia Merch^{t}. from Bengal, and y^{e}. Society & China Merch^{t}. from Suratt, for w^{ch}. God be praised! All were richly laden but y^{e}. Chandois w^{ch}. run away basely from Bencoolen, for w^{ch}. crime we must at greater leisure acco^{t}. with y^{e}. Com̃and^{r}. & Owners.

Ships arrivall in England. Capt. and Owners of the Chandois will be call'd to acct.

Affronts recd. from Siam by indulging Phaulkon.

The affronts you have reĉed from Englishmen in y^{e} King of Syams ships, you brought upon your selves by indulging Phaulcon and his Emissaries, & receiving Presents & Com̃issions from him, of w^{ch}. We writ you what would be y^{e}. conseq^{ce} long since; & now you write us (w^{ch}. is noe news) that y^{t} place is not worth setling at, w^{ch} we writ you o^{r} selves above two years past, & we wish we have not as ill an acco^{t} from Barron whom you employed without o^{r} order, & contrary to yo^{r} own previous letter.

An ill acct. feared from Barrow.

French settleing on the Coast & in the Bay for 20 years with little success.

The great things you tell us of y^{e}. French setling upon y^{e} Coast & in Bengal, we are not much allarm'd at; they have been above 20 years, trying to raise a trade in India, but with little success hitherto.

A time for buying goods much better and cheaper.

If you cannot now buy o^{r} Goods much better & cheaper, we shall despair y^{t} ever it wilbe done by y^{e} same managem^{t}, especially considering y^{e} Dutch warr with Gulcondah; & as some of you have writ, y^{e} Danes are likewise at warr; whether that warr be particularly with y^{e} Moguls subjects or with Sombagee & y^{e} King of Gulcondah, we cannot tell; but it's most probable it's a general warr, or at least an interruption of trade; because y^{e} Danes in India are not very nice in distinguishing between their friends or their foes when they find themselves the stronger.

Of fencing against creating a revenue att the Fort.

Yo are still fenceing against our creating a Revenue at y^{e} Fort, with slight insignificant argum^{ts}. wherein y^{e} worst is, y^{t} you should have so mean an opinion of us as to think such sophistical reasons will make any impressions on our judgm^{ts}, of which we shall say more when we come to y^{e}. Argum^{ts}.

Of settling att Negraes

Att Pegu [or] Quiddah

want of a place to build & repair ship

We observe what you say about Negrays w^{ch} you intended to obtain licence from y^{e} King of Aracan to settle upon, the place is more probable than any of y^{e} other places you have endeavoured to mislead us to throw away o^{r} mony upon viz. Pegu or Quiddah, and y^{e} time was opportune when you could have bought slaves so cheap at the Fort by reason of the dearth, & y^{e} necessity we have for a place fit to build [&] repair Ships on that side of India abounding in tymber. But after that we must tell you it's a thousand times better to have that upon a place where we may have subjects as well as land, & a King our Confederate to defend us, than in a place where we shalbe twenty years at charge in raising a Plantaĉon & People before we come to make any profit of it, or to be in a condition to defend our settlem^{t} against y^{e} Dutch, or produce any comodity upon y^{e} place fit to load a Ship; & therefore undoubtedly Chettigham is a better place for all y^{e} purposes you propound than ever Negrays can be: ffor besides y^{e} repairing o^{r} ships at that place wilbe an addiĉonal security to it, prevent y^{e} dividing of our strength & forces w^{ch} the setling at Negrays will necessarily occasion; and there (Viz. at Chittegham) if o^{r} people have but half y^{e} understandings of men, they will always have in [aids as] Confederates at hand, y^{e} Bengallers or Rechanners; & there if o^{r} instructions be followed, will suddenly be raised comodities sufficient to supply y^{e} Fort, & many to send home for Europe.

Chattegam a much better place than Negraes.

As to another Pepper Plantacon it seems evident to us y^t^ none is so fit as the Island in y^e^. entrance of Johore River, which y^e^. King of that Country offered Mr. Gladman to give us to fortify when he stopped there in y^e^ China Merch^t^, coming. from Amoy; & y^e^. Johores are a resolute bold people always mortal Enemies to y^e^ Dutch, and therefore y^e^. likelyer to be true & agreeable to us; althô we know they are not men fit to be trusted otherwise than as they find us armed & defended by our own Artillery & our soldiers: But certainly they would assist us ag^t^ the Dutch; but of that we have writ you more largely by y^e^ Williamson & discoursed Cap^t^ Warner, as also of Tenasseree w^ch^ seemes a better place to us for y^e^. purposes before menc̃oned than Negrays and if we take it by conquest, that is a good title to y^e^ inheritance by y^e^ Law of Nac̃ons: Besides, there we shall find Artificers as well as Tymber w^ch^ former cannot be had at Negrays, otherwise than as we must chargeably send them thither, w^ch^ is an endless expence; But this we have & doe referr to yo^r^. consultac̃on with Cap^t^ Warner.

The Island in the entrance of Johore River a fitting place for a Pepper plantation.

offered Mr Gladman to ffortifie

The Jehores [mortall] Enemies to the Dutch

Tenasserie a better place for Shipping then Negraes.

Artificers & timber there but none att Negraes

Referr'd to Consultation wth. Cap^t^ Warner.

It wil be time enough to think of disposing y^e^ residue when we have got from y^e^ King of Syam enough to pay o^r^ own debt demorage & charges, & not to divide y^e^ skin before we have killed y^e^ Bear. In y^e^ meantime we cannot but admire at y^e^ confidence in thinking to lead us to consider yo^r^ losses by saying you were engaged y^e^ bolder in that trade by reason of y^e^ ffactors sent from Suratt to settle there; whereas yo^r^selves by yo^r^ encourageing letters drew our most worthy Generall into that business, as you had done us, if we had not been more aware of y^e^ snare, & known what motives induced you to be so unreasonably kind to that wicked fellow Phaulcon.

A check about [. . .]

We take notice of yo^r^ great complaint of want of stock, & have reason to believe you aggravate that matter to y^e^ utmost: Our Gen^ll^ and Council of Suratt have laboured under much greater difficulties with less complaint; well observing, as y^e^ truth was, y^t^ while we were agonizing with y^e^ Interlopers, it was necessary for us to send larger tonnage than our then stock did extend to; Neither could we foresee y^t^ you would break all our orders about Pryaman to direct a settlem^t^ at Bencoolen; by which erro^r^ many lives have been lost, & a great treasure y^t^ would have setled Pryaman & made it probably as strong as Fort S^t^ George by this time; and by that miscarriage of yo^rs^ (thô perhaps you intended it innocently) hath happened a great disappointment of Pepper, w^ch^ you intended by that erro^r^ to encrease; and if your purpose had succeeded, you would have had noe cause to complain of too much tonnage for y^e^ stock; neither have you now, if y^e^ warr goes forward with Bengal where men & shipping are more necessary at present than mony to buy Goods: However, we have this last Winter sent you an extraordinary stock for y^e^ tonnage sent out.

Concerning want of stock.

Many lives lost & treasure by not settling att Priaman.

A great disappointmen of Pepper thereby.

Men & shipping more necessary fo the Warr in Bengall thai mony.

We have advised his Ma^ty^ of y^e^ Dutch infractions upon us at Metchlep^a^ & elsewhere, of which you will hear more hereafter.

His Majty. advised of the Dutch infractions att Metchlepatam.

M^r^ Du Jardin is a huffing, swaggering, ignorant, avaritious prodigal person, & we are sorry to see such men so much in yo^r^ favour. M^r^ Higginson we know

Mr. Du Jardins character.

Commendations of Mr. Higginson & not to be remov'd from Councill.

is a sober honest man, & we will not have him therefore removed from yo^{r} Council upon any pretence whatsoever And we hereby appoint M^{r} Samuel Cudworth to be youngest of your Council if he come up to y^{e} Fort; apprehending

Mr. Cudworth order'd youngest of Councill.

Penmen of the Letters blamed.

safety in a multitude of Councello^{rs} there, while y^{e} Penman of yo^{r} letters fences & argues ℔petually & as it were try mastery with us in every thing we propound for y^{e} good of y^{e} Comp^{a} which looks too like y^{e} prologue to a Rebellion, althô we fear not that as y^{e} world goes now.

Mr. Freeman not to be removed from Councill.

M^{r} Freeman we doe likewise positively direct to return to his station at y^{e} Fort in o^{r} Council, & not to be removed from thence wthout our own particular order.

Mr. Davies dismist the service.

M^{r} Davies is certainly good for nothing, & will never doe y^{e} Comp^{a} any acceptable service, & therefore we doe hereby dismiss him from our employm^{t} & from all benefit of salary or otherwise thereby.

A check for arguing against a moderate duty upon the Portuguez etca.

Your elaborate argum^{ts} to persuade us not to impose a moderate duty upon y^{e} Portuguez & other Inhabitants of our City of Madrass whom we doe protect and exceedingly encourage in their several vocations, have noe weight at all with us: We know it is o^{r} interest to use them kindly, & better than they can be used

[Portu]gues etca., to be as free as English.

in any other part of India; and so they shall ever be used by Us; but there is as much difference between using them well or ill, as there is between liberty and licenciousness: They shall always be as free as English men: and if they make any tumulte or mutterings against the Governm^{t}, while they are so well

If they make any tumults or mutterings to bee proceeded against by Martiall Law. How to be punished if they raise Sedition or Rebellion.

used, we require you to proceed against such Mutineers by Martial Law; And if they be found guilty of raising any sedition or rebellion let y^{e} particular persons found guilty, be severely fined for y^{e} former offence, or executed for y^{e} latter,

as such mutinous Rebels were at St. Helena: Till that be done, we must expect noe good government, nor any thing like the face of Sovereign Authority amongst y^{e}. English in India.

A law touching receiving of Quit Rent.

We doe hereby order & ordain as a law in our City of Madrass (which Wee require you to publish with y^{e}. usual solemnity) that all persons Owners or Occupiers of any Houses or Land within Our precinct, that shall neglect or refuse for three months after publication, to bring in the arrear of their respective Quit Rents imposed upon them, such Houses and Lands their Own^{rs} or Occupiers shall for ever hereafter stand charged and pay to the Comp^{a} & their Successors double the Quit rents formerly imposed upon them.

Of the Dutch raising Revenues.

It is monstrous y^{t} you should attempt to impose upon Us such a fallacy, y^{t} the Dutch raised noe Revenue but in conquered places, which in fact is not true, for in Batavia where they raise 140,000 £ ℔ ann', all charges of y^{e} Garison deducted, they did not come in by conquest, but in y^{e} same manner as We did at Madrass.

Trade & populousness of a place creates a revenue.

It's very true, We had a part of Jaccatra[1] (now Batavia) with them, and upon a quarrel they beat us out; and it is as true, y^{t} after they were solely possessed of Batavia, they were besieged by some of the Princes of Java whom they had beat off: But what is that to the raising of Revenues? It is onely the Trade & populousness of the place y^{t} gives opportunity to the Governo^{rs} to create a Revenue, & not the manner of their first Entrance, whether by Conquest or Compact or Treachery by which last way only the Dutch possessed themselves of the Spice

[1] Jakatra was the seat of a Javanese Kingdom which combined several Dutch Provinces. In 1619, the Dutch gave it the present name 'Batavia'. In 1811, it was captured by the British, but was, by the treaty of 1815 restored to its former possessors. *Hobson—Jobson*, p. 71 and *Beeton's Dictionary of Universal Information*, Vol. I, p. 243.

Islands, which afterwards they sometimes defended by Arms. It is true, that limited poor liberty that the Dutch give to Chineeses and Mallayes is a great cause of the Populousness of Batavia, but the trade and the number of People by what means soever acquired, is the cause of Revenue, and Our own Trade and the great Indulgence We give to all other Traders, is the cause of the Populousness of Madrass; and to tell us by way of exception and excuse, or to make good y^r^ fallacious argument aforesaid, that the Dutch can raise no Revenue at Pollicat is a strange imposition upon Us, who know very well that they never [had] the Excercise of sovereign Authority in that Place, nor y^e^ Entire Customes, and it is for that reason that they now make Warr upon the King of Gulconda which your selves know very well, besides if they had the Sovereignty of Pollicatt they can never make any considerable revenue there, not because they came in there first by compact, and not by conquest, but because it will be impossible for them ever to make that a Populous place, unless they could give the same liberty for trade and free shipping as Wee doe, which they never can, it being destructive of their Interest, which is & ever must be (upon the ffoundation they stand) to deny freedom of trade even to their own serv^ts^, much more to all nations as We doe.

Cause of the populousness of Batavia.

Cause of the same at Madras.

About raising the revenue of Polliacat.

Why itt cannot be done there.

For the King of Gulcondah's Writing to you, you may acquaint him in a decent and friendly manner, that We are none of his subjects, wherein We would have you be guided by the old Proverb, *suaviter in modo fortiter in re*, But if nevertheless he pretend to any dominion over your City, you may, (when you are in a good Condition) tell him in plain terms That We own him for our Good friend, Allye, and Confederate, and Sovereign and Lord Paramount of all that Country, excepting the small territory belonging to Madras, of which We claim y^e^ sovereignty, and will maintain and defend against all Persons, and govern by our own laws, without any appeal to any Prince of Potentate whatsoever, except our Sovereign Lord the King, paying unto him (the King of Gulcondah) our agreed tribute of 1,200 Pag^a^ ℔ ann, and if ever he break with you upon these terms, we require you to defend your selves by Armes, and from that time renounce paying him any more tribute, It being strange to Us that while he is oppress'd by the Mogull on one hand, and by a poor handfull of Dutch men on the other, who can seize and maintain Metchlep^a^., you should make your selves so timerous, and fearfull of asserting our own Kings just right & prerogative, to that important Place.

Of writing to the King of Gulcondah.

When not to pay tribute to him.

A check for timerousness

We think you have been over liberall to M^r^. Jearsey, but since there is an end of it, shall say no more to that, nor to that ill business of y^e^ of China Goods, w^ch^. you expostulate so long as if it became you to have y^e^ last word of Us right or wrong.

Concerning Mr. Jearsey and the China goods.

We shall consider of Capt^n^. Kempthorns case w^th^. y^e^ Persians, and do what is just to them, as well as to him before We pay his freight.

Capt Kempthorns case to be considered.

You did very well in punishing the Purser of the Chandos, the want of that where due hath almost ruined all our affairs.

Punishing the Purser of the Chandos Commended.

Medicines stores &c^a^ shall be sent in a new ship of 700. tons, Cap^t^ Haddock Commander, who is [to depart Gravesend] the 14^th^. October, with a large stock of money, and Captain Heath in the new Defence We intend shall depart the Downes by y^e^ 14^th^ December, both as full of souldiers as they can conveniently carry, and these are all the ships you may expect this year, unless We should give leave for one or two free ships to stay in y^e^ Country, and bring you further recruit of souldiers.

Medicines & stores to bee sent.

[. . . .] Gravesend [. . . .] 14th October.

Capt Heath to depart the Downes 14th December.

These two all the ships this year except one or two free ships.

By all means strengthen and propagate our settlement at Chittegam If we be so happy as to gain possession of it, and remember alwayes to be very cautious

Chattegam to be streng-

propagated if gained.

how you divide our strength upon any suggestion whatsoever, as you did in making 2. or 3 sickly small settlements upon the West Coast, instead of one strong fortification at Pryaman, from whence We might have driven the trade to y^e^ Southward for Pepper in sloopes or by a small factory at each Place, and two or three Gunns, which would have been as defensible in time of Warr with any European Nation, as 40. Guns in such a sickly Place as Bencoolen or Indrapoora, which if ever We come to have Warr with the Dutch cannot hold out 3 dayes.

Concerning the settlements on the West Coast.

A great supply sent to Priaman.

We have sent to those Places such Vast stores and Numbers of men which Were all designed for Pryaman, that if they be not sufficient to maintain and defend the Place, it will be [to no purpose] for Us to send any more Recruits from hence, neither do We intend it, untill We hear better news of their health and the trade of those Places, so that what they may hereafter need you must supply them with by our sloops from y^e^ ffort, and it shall be our Care to supply you very well, But here We must again take notice to you what fatall consequences do ensue upon one fundamentall Error such as yours was in directing our ships to deviate from y^e^ design of Pryaman, such likewise was your endearing Phaulcon for a few Presents & consignacons to your selves, from whence ensued y^e^ error of sending Harbin &c^a^ thither, secondly y^e^ Comp^as^ losse & disappointment by Coates at Metchlep^a^. 3^dly^. The Disappointment of the Dragons Voyage home, whose men would never have runn away from Tonqueen, but that they heard there was so many of their Country men there, not hinder'd but rather encourag'd by you to go thither by y^e^ kind entertainm^t^. you show'd to that fugitive deserter Tvatt, whom you sh^d^. rather have try'd by Martiall law for a Runnaway, than have entertain'd with presents & gunns at our Charge.

no more recruits will bee sent from England.

To be supplied from the Fort.

Fatall consequences by deviating from the design of Priaman.

Such likewise by endearing Phaulkon.

Concerning Tvat.

If Chittegam can bee secured a folly to think of Negras or Tenasseree.

If you can secure Chittegam it's a meer folly to think either of Negrais or Tenasseree, for Chittegam if it be throughly strengthen'd, & our Instruccons Prosecuted will answer to all y^e^ Ends of y^e^ other 2 Places, and many other better Purposes, and there our strength will be united, and may with y^e^ Assistance of the Reccanners or Bengallers, (w^ch^ of those Nations they shall be in confederacy with) be able to defend themselves in a time of Warr against the Dutch, or any other European Nation, especially if all our own Coast ships, and all the free ships belonging to Madrass do winter or ride out their Monsoones there, which is our great desire that they alwaies should, as We have order'd them to do on y^e^ other side of India, alwaies in Bombay road, And if our Predecessors had done that 20 or 30 years past We should not now need to fear a Warr w^th^. the Dutch, or any Nation in India, not but that We know that y^e^ Dutch in India, are more numerous, and strong in Multitudes of ships Forts and Men then We are, but We know likewise the more fforts they have the Weaker they will be found, when they come to deal with an Europe enemy, that will make a Predatory Warr against them, for that by Computation they have above 100 small fforts round the Islands of Sumatra, Java, and in other parts, that cannot hold out one day ag^st^. a ship of twenty Gunns, having not above 6, 8, or 10 white men in them.

Conveniencies in Chittegam.

Ships to ride out the mon [soons] att Chittegam.

Concerning the Dutch in India.

[Dutch] hated by all people.

Resolved to put up no injuries

We know likewise that they are hated by their own People, as well as by the Natives, and that very many of their own People would come over to Us, if they knew they should be protected by us, but as We are resolved to put up [with] no Injuries from them hereafter, [Soe] We would not be the Beginners of any Warr against them.

A large quantity of blew cloth to be provided [then the rest.]

To [be made] of a much deeper blue.

We are very well satisfyed that three times the quantity of Blew Long cloth writt for in our last list would sell at an Extraordinary rate, if you could cause the Colour to be made of a much deeper blew, which We would have you oblige Vincatadry and his ffellowes to gett effected, all Excuses sett apart.

Encouragm^t^. to gett Europeans into our service.

Get as many Europeans as you can into our service for seamen or souldiers, though you allow a Dollar reward to any Master of our sloopes for each man he brings to you from any Place, and to the Commanders of freighted shipps 40^ds^ ℔ head in consideration of the charge of their Victualls for transportation, which

Persons soe coming to you Wee cannot doubt but will stay with you, well knowing our service, especially at the ffort, to be much easier, and more proffitable than any other service in India, and if any runn away after they have rec^{d}. the Companyes money, hang them according to the law Martiall.

If any run away to bee hang'd according to Martiall Law.

Your Customes come to soe small a summe Annually that We cannot think our selves justly dealt with in that matter, or else that your orders in the Collection are not good, and agreable to the laws and methods of Collection of his Ma^{tys}. duty of Custom here, which Wee require you to observe as near as possible may be, and therefore do send you herewith a Book of rates &c^{a}. which will acquaint you with the laws, rules, and methods here, and Wee do hereby appoint Mr. Higginson,

Complaint of the smallness of the Customes.

The Laws and methods of collecting his Majies. Customes in England to bee observed as near as possible.

and Mr. Wavell, under our Presid^{t}. and Council to be our Comissioners and

Mr. Higginson & Mr. Wavell appointed Commissioners & Collectors.

Collectors of all our Customs besides the other business to which you have

To be Commissioners and Collectors besides their other business.

or should peculiarly appoint them, and We do further Order that every ship or Vessell coming to our City of Madrasse, shall make a due Entry of all their Goods

A due entry to bee made by all ships and vessels.

in the manner they doe in London, before any thing be landed, and that if any thing be landed before Custome paid the same be forfeited one half to the use of the Company, and the other half to the use of him, or them that shall make discovery of such uncustomed Goods landed, for which our Attorney Generall upon Information made to him, shall sue and implead the Goods soe landed, or the Party laying claim to them, and see right done to the Company and the Informer, according to this law, and such other by laws as you shall make for the better Collection of our Duty of Customes.

If any goods landed before Custome paid to bee forfeited.

Half to the Comp^{a} half to the discoverer.

To be proceeded against by the Attorney Generall.

And because you are now in a Warr, at least with the King of Syam, Wee do appoint that of all ships and Vessells taken by Charterparty ships, and adjudged to be Prize $\frac{1}{6}$ part of the Value of ship and Goods shall be paid to y^{e} Commander

How any Prize taken by Charterparty ships is to be devided.

Officers and Seamen for their Encouragem^{t}. and $\frac{5}{6}$ parts paid and accompted to the Comp^{a}., his Ma^{tys}. $\frac{1}{10}$ part due for all Prizes, being first deducted out of the whole, paid into our Cash, and an acc^{t}. thereof kept apart, for his Ma^{tys}. use and that of all Prize ships and Goods taken by your Own, or any free ships (unto whom the Comp^{a}. pay neither freight nor demorage) $\frac{5}{6}$ parts of the Value shall be paid to y^{e}. Comander and Owners, and $\frac{1}{6}$ part to the Comp^{a}. his Ma^{tys}. $\frac{1}{10}$ being 1st. subducted as aforesa^{d}.

An acct. thereof to be kept apart.

How any prize taken by Country or free ships to bee divided.

As We have complain'd justly of what you doe amiss, so Wee have reason to commend your Well performance of the Bengall Expedition, & the Exact secrecy which you preserved in that business.

Commendation for Secrecy in the Bengall ezpedition.

31. If the King of Gulcondah will not let you S^{t}. Thoma to farm, you must some way or other (when you are strong enough) suppress y^{e}. Growth of that Place, and let the King of Gulcondah know you neither can nor will pay his pretended rent of 1200 Pag^{s}. ℔ annum, If he suffers that place to grow Up as a Publick nusance to

Of suppressing the growth of St. Thomã.

P. 1200 rent for Madras not capitulafied att our first settlement.

our City of Madrass, which you may justify if it be true as you have heretofore inform'd Us, that that rent of 1200 Pag^{s}. was not capitulated by us to be paid at our first settlement there, but a usurpation upon Us by Lingapa, or some other of his Gov^{rs}, when We were not in a Condition to assert our own right, as now We are.

Coyning of silver mony not to be delayed.

Coining [of] silver money of all sorts you must not delay in [expectac̃on] of stamps from [hence], but make such as are used in that countrey and proceed to the coining of all sorts of silver money with yo^{r}. owne Sherroffs; we having authority soe to doe from our own Soverign, which authority wee will justify within our own Dominions against all opposition whatsoever.

Only six horses to be kept for use of the President & second.

All other of Councill to buy themselves horses, and Armes.

[As also] all trading Jews & merchants.

Wee will allow but of the keeping 6 horses at y^{e}. Companies Charge, which wee intend especially for the use of our President & Second and we recomend it to all of our Councell that are well [affected] to our Interest that they doe each of them buy and keep [a Horse] and Armes for their owne occasions, And Wee enjoyne all the trading Jewes, and all trading Merchants of any considerable estate and busines to doe the like, That soe yo^{r}. City upon any occasion may be furnished with horses sufficient to make a good Troop, in the nature of a Militia Troop, according to our former direc̃ons touching this affaire, And lett us have an account from you how farr you have proceeded in this matter and who they are that you think capable to keep a horse, that doe neglect or refuse complyance to this our reasonable Injunction.

To bee in the nature of a militia troop.

An Acc^{t}. to be given [of the rest.]

To early to make a settlem^{t}.

Propper to make a voyage thether.

Wee think it is yet too early untill the Bengall busines be over for us to attempt to make any Settlement at Mindanao, But to that place and to the Island De. Ladrones it may be very proper for you to make a Voyage, with some of yo^{r}. owne or other small free ships, And for the encouragem^{t}. of such as shall undertake [itt], wee are content you should give 8 ^{d}⁄ lb for clove Bark & ^{t}40 or ^{s}50 ℔ cent. for quill cassia Lignum, and send the same home to the Compny for the Companys acco^{t}. or otherwise you may give Leave to the Proprietors, be they English or natives, to send those goods home to us upon the same termes as wee have appoynted for China Goods in our former Lr̃es ℔. the Williamson.

Compas. price for Clove bark & quill Cassia Lignum.

To be sent home to the Company for the Company's acc^{t}.

Or on the same tearms for China goods.

Blamed for not hanging 2 or 3 of the Ring [l]eaders of the mutinous souldiers who refused to go to the Bay.

You had acted more like statesmen and souldiers if you had not only shewed the Gallows to those mutinous souldiers who refused to goe to the Bay but hanged presently two or three of y^{e}. Ring Leaders, it being by the Martiall Law present death for a Souldier to lay down his armes or refuse to march when he is c̃omanded.

Compa. directed wisely to have provisions sent from the Bay.

Blame for arguing against itt.

Reasons for arguing against itt known to the Company.

You see in this dearth, that wee did well, and wisely direct that all our shipps from Bengall should alwayes come up to you [fully]Laden with Rice and provisions, Notwithstanding you argue and fence against that most rationall & necessary Injunction for the Companys Interest, as well as yo^{r}. owne security, by telling us Lingapa would be offended, and other fallacious argum^{ts}. Although wee know at the bottom, 't was only a narrow soul'd Interest of yo^{r}. owne which made that good order unpleasant to you, Least yo^{r}. owne shipps with provisions should not get soe much money.

As you see the Dutch strengthening themselves soe near you, make the more hast to better fortify and strengthen our city of Madrass according to such direcc̃ons as wee have formerly given you, or any other wayes you shall finde more Defensive.

City of Madras to be strengthen'd.

It seems to us that the time of Dearth had beene the most opportune for you to have forced on the wall of y^e^. Black towne, because in England and all parts of the world when provisions are dearest on a sudden or for any one yeare, poore people are most willing to worke and all manufactures are cheapest.

Time of dearth very opportune to have forct on the wall of the Black Town.

Now is the time or never to buy our goods better & cheaper and [force] yo^r^. Black Merch^ts^. to make new goods in imitac̃on of the Bay goods, Because the Warrs in India will certainly give the Manufacturers greater Leisure; because of necessity three quarter parts of the Trade of India will be obstructed and all betweene India and Persia Bossera & the Redd Sea, as well as to many other places, which used to [carry] off infinite quantities of the manufactures of Choromandel & all parts of India.

Now the time to buy goods cheap & better, & new goods to be made in imitation of Bay goods.

Trade of India Obstructed.

And upon this occasion certainly Raw silke in Bengall must be excessive cheap, soe that this is yo^r^. time or never to contrive a way to have it brought over Land at the Charge & risque of Banians or Gentues to the ffort, and to sett yo^r^. people to worke upon silk manufactures as well as cotton afores^d^. in imitation of Bay Cõmodities.

Upon foregoing reasons Raw Silk must bee cheap in Bengall.

A way to bee contrived to to bring itt overland to the Fort, att the charge & risque of Banians or Gentues.

It will be likewise good to continue to encourage the planting of Pepper near you, or bring it by land from y^e^. other side, not knowing how long wee may be able to keep our station at the West Coast, or on the coast of Mallabar, If the Dutch resolve to pursue their long laid designe of engrossing all the pepper trade of India by armes, which our duty to our King and Countrey obligeth us to prevent to the utmost of our power. We remaine.

Concerning planting & bringing pepper to the fort.

Concerning planting & bringing pepper to the Fort.

Yo^r^ loving friends

Jos^a^. Child Gov^r^.
W^M^. Turner
John Moore
Hen: Tulse
Edward Des Bouverie
Tho: Rawlinson
Peter Joye
Jo. Creed
George Boun
Nathaniell Tenche
Josiah Child
R. Hutchinson
Francis: Gosfright
John Goodere.

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT ST. GEORGE, DATED AUGUST 3, 1687. PER LOYALL MERCHANT. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 141—146.*]

LONDON 3RD. AUGUST 1687.

OUR PRESIDENT & COUNCILL
AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

We send you with this Copy of our former of the 6th June and Copy of our Lre now sent to Bombay, And it infinitely troubles us, that we are still so justly provoked to complain of yor. Conduct particularly, that you should keep the Chandois so long idle [at ye] ffort, untill there was but 26 Demorage dayes left, for ye load[ing] her with Pepper, after her arrivall at Indrapora. You know as well as we, That all Commanders hate to lye upon the West Coast, and will take any occasion to come off from it, especially being armed with such a pretence, as the expiration of time by Chreparty, which Captain Levellis tooke the opportunity [of] and (after the example of the Syam Merchant) came away with less than ½ her loading; But we have found such designed practices by him, to prevent the loading of his ship, which might with difficulty have been effected in that 26 dayes time if he had discharged his Duty, as he ought to have done, that We resolve to pay him freight and Demorage proportiona[bly] only, to what he brought home. This neglect of yours, in not sending away the Chandois sooner, (notwithstanding ye weake excuse you make for it) is the more pernicious & inexcusable because you might well know, (as Mr. Bloome writes) how necessary it was for our service, besides the compleat Loading of the ship, to have her spend as much of her time as might be [in] defence and Countenance of our small fforts on that Coast.

blamed for keepeing Chandois soe long.

Went from ye West Coast [wth]. ½ his Loading

We take no pleasure in these frequent Complaints, but much the Contrary, and hope we shall not have occasion hereafter [to] write you in any other stile, than what we have all along [used] and our Generall and Council of Surratt have justly merited from Us.

Supposed Mr. Cawley to be at Pryaman.

[When] we writt of Mr. Cawley, We thought he had been at Pryaman as you writt us, But since he was not there, you had no reason to send him to Indrapora, when you had newly setled that place in other hands.

Potts & Cawley honest.

Mr. Potts and Mr. Cawley, we observe are not affected, and though they may each of them, have been indiscreet in something we believe, in the [main] they are both honest men, and desire our President Mr. Yale, that such may be his, and yor. ffavourites as you see are Ours, professing it is no personall respect moves us in this, But for the truth and vertue, we observe in them, wch. we have cause to doubt is the reason they and some others have found so little ffriendship at ffort St. George.

3. Copy of our Lre sent to Bombay will save us the Labour of Writing many Paragraphs to you in this, which otherwise we must have writt, with relacon to the Occurrences & probability of Peace or War, whereas, now it will be sufficient to tell you, that we have the same care for ffort St. George, and our City of Madrass as we have for Bombay, and will not grudge at any Charge, frugally disburs'd, that tends to the strengthening of that Place. But you must compell yor numerous Inhabitants to contribute towards it, by such methods as we have formerly advised, and your own Ingenuityes shall suggest, most agreable to the Dutch methods; which we think, are the best, the wit of men can invent, as to the manner of them, thô they are too excessive and cruell in the rates, proportion or value, in which excess we will never imitate them.

Willing to strengthen Madras the Inhabitts Contribute thereto.

Let every ship that comes to you, bring her full loading of Rice and Provisions, & otherwise supply yorselves by our sloops etca. from the Gingee Country, that you may at any time be in Condicon to endure a siege of 6 months, and if you have a mind to it, We are sure you may manage this Trade of Rice in a place where there is so great Consumption of it to three very good purposes.

to lay in store for a [6 mos] seige.

1. To be alwayes so stored y^t^. you need not fear a siege of 6 months.

2. That in a time of Dearth as last year was, yo^r^. meanest numerous Inhabitants shall never be forced to pay excessive rates for their daily food.

3. That the Comp^a^. may be very good gainers by their charge in building proper Godownes for this purpose, the disbursement of their mony, & the wast and charge which will be incident to the taking in, preserving and delivering out such great quantityes of Rice. And this is no strange or new Iuvention, but agrees to the Policy and Prudence of the Comp^as^. of this famous City of Lond^n^. the City of Lisboa in Portugall, & more to many other well governed Citios in Europe, who have anciently built many [great] & convenient storehouses to lay up wheat and other Graines [for] the ends [aforesaid].

It is likewise of no less necessity for you on that [side of India] to be furnished with all conveniencies for building and repa[iring] of great ships, than it is for Bombay, But we know, that [cannot be] upon the Coast of Choromandel, and since your fatall [error lost] us Pryaman, We know no place so fitt as Chittegam, if we [be] so successfull, as to gain the possession of it, which would be joy[full] News to Us, And in such case we would desire you to use all [possi]ble Industry and necessary expence to secure it, and [make it] more defensible, if you can, than any place, we have in India. It was antiently the only Port of Bengall, lyes in a cheap and plentifull Country, is the Lock and Key (as we may call it) of Decca, and where we may have at all times with prudent Management the Raccaners or the Bengallers to friend, Being antient Enemies to each other; Let our Gov^r^. and Councill there have alwayes from you whatever Recruits they write for, and order all our free ships to winter and repair there.

hopes of getting Chittegam.

all ffree shipps to winter & Repair there.

In time of Peace provide for War, and put all yo^r^. Militia in a posture of Defence, which we repeat again to you, thô it be in the Bombay Lre, because it is of so great Concern[ment], and pray mind exactly every thing we writt in our former Lre to you, and what we have now writt to Bencoolen of w^ch^. you have a Copy.

to be alwayes in a readiness & posture of defence.

The only two ships we intend to send you this year are the Princess Ann of Denmark, Captain Joseph Haddock Commander, a new ship above 700 Tons, and Captain Heath in another new ship called the New Defence of about 800 Tons. The former is obliged by Chre party, under the late penalty to be ready to depart the Downs by the 14^th^ October next. The later about Christmas, or the beginning of January. By [both] those ships, We hope to send you 250 soldiers all discipl[ined] men, of the late disbanded forces in Ireland, and on each [ship] 30 supernumerary seamen, which shall be at yo^r^. command for our service there by sea and Land, and probably, we may by some one or two free ships send you out 50 or 60 soldiers more, But if you and our Gov^r^. and Council in Bengall, use your Witts to get men from the Dutch, as they do to intice away our men, for which [now] we give you free leave, you may gain a good supply from Hughly & Policat, hopeing you will not want understanding to cover it with same pretences, they make to us, when we complain of y^t^. Injury.

Princess Ann & New Defence all ye. shipps this year.

endeav^r^. to gett men from ye. Dutch.

Such are the Circumstances of our affairs at Bombay, that we cannot certainly informe you, when our Generall will have Leisure to visitt yo^r^. parts, nor how long he will be able to stay w^th^. you, But when ever it shall please God to arrive him with you, We would have you receive him with that honour and respect which is due to the Character he bears, and the great trust we have reposed in him.

[Know] not when the Genl. [may] come. [entertaine] him hobly.

We have no more to say untill the arrivall of our ships which we daily expect.

We have not yet so sufficiently considered the Mindanao Voyage as to give you any positive directions concerning it, although the place in our opinion is exceeding hopefull and Mr. Cheney, that hath been there already, and Mr. Moody, fit Persons to send upon that design, where doubtless the best thing to be first done is to reedifie the old Castle at Caldera and fortify it with about 20 Guns, w^ch^. with a small Garison, and the Assistance of the Natives might be defended, But

[. . .] Mindanoa.

we have smarted so sorely of late, by dividing our strength and our charge, that we must forbid you, doing any such thing again, on the Compas. accot. without our own Order. The only places we would strengthen and make [us] as far, in us lyes, impregnable being Bombay, ffort St. George & Chittegam, or some other Port in Bengall fitt to draw a Trade to, and to build & repair great ships.

Lett to ffarme ye. Mindanoa trade [provided] ye. Renters will fortifie it.

But if any of yor. ffree men or yor. society of Black Merchants will joyn together, and any of our Councills & servants with them will make and constitute among themselves a Mindanao Compa. and undertake to fortify, as you shall direct at their own charge, You may lett them by Lease the sole trade of Mindanao, and all the Profitts yt. can be raised thereby, for seaven or Eleven years at the rent of a Thousand or ffifteen hundred pounds ℔ Ann, They leaving the place fortifyed with all ye. Guns and Ammunicon to the Company at the end of ye. terme, except the Company shall then agree with them for an increase of rent, & further time at ye. expiration of the first Lease or ffarme.

Or if you can find none yt. will adventure to fortify at their proper charge, you may let out ye. sole trade of that place to any persons for what annuall rent you can get, and forbid all others from trading thither.

[Over] stockt wth. Beetellaes.

[Wth] Bettellees we [are] abundantly overstockt, send no more of them, untill you receive our further Orders for it upon any pretence wtsoever, except they be strip'd or fflowered, Neither send any more [of] yt. [mean] figg Indigo wch. is of no use for Dyers, but only for painters of houses and Plasterers.

not to send any home wth. out order.

But send us as much as you can of Coarse long Cloth and Sallampores and sail Cloth, strong and well sorted, those being staple Commodityes, alwayes of use, and so are Romalls if well bought and well sorted.

rather then send shipps home dead ffreighted Lade wth. Canes and Rattans.

You did very ill in omitting writing us, wt. you had stopt of Lieutent [Child's] pay towards his Creditors, and require you not to omitt stopping every months 20s from him, untill those mens debts be satisfyed, wch. did him that service at his going out. We require you for the future, not to suffer any [ship] to come to us wth. empty Tonnage, But in case of any such inavitable necessity, as you pretend you are now under, fill up our empty tonnage wth. Canes and Rattans rather then let it come wholly empty, for those will pay us some freight, and if you say, they grow not wth. you, we know that already, but we know likewise, yt. our Capts. can alwayes have them there for their mony & at moderate rates.

retrench ye. sallaryes at Benecolen and Indrapore.

We did think to have had a Noble Settlement at Pryaman like ffort St. George, as you might observe by all our Letters & preparacons, & therefore we directed such great salaryes at yt. place, but since we have lost yt. expectacon, And Bencoolen & Indrapora are decayed & reduced to mean small ffactories, we will allow no other salaries at either place but wt. yor.selves appointed, and informe us of by yor. Lre received by Kempthorne, But if either of those places shall grow more considera[ble] hereafter, we will accordingly encrease ye. salaryes of or. Councill there. We have not else to add, but commending you to ye. Guidance and protection of the Almighty, We remain

Your very loving Friends,

Josa. Child Junior.	Josa. Child Govr.
John Moore.	Ben. Bathurst Depty.
John Goodere.	Tho: Rawlinson.
Hen. Johnson.	Nathaniell Tenche.
Hen. Tulse.	Tho. Cooke.
James Edwards.	Nath. Mounteney.
Fra. Gosfright.	Tho. Frederick.

GENERAL LETTER TO BOMBAY, DATED AUGUST 3, 1687. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 149—165.*]

LONDON THE 3D. AUGUST 1687.

OUR GENERALL [& COUNCIL] OF INDIA
RESIDING ATT BOMBAY.

Wee send you with this Pacquett Copy of our last & Present letters to Fort St. George and Persia, and of our two former to your selves, Likewise Copy of our letter to Bencoolen, and of our Instructions to Captain Harding & of his Charter-party, and the Copy of our letter to the Govr. and Council of St. Helena, to the intent you should be rightly informed of all our Concernes, which is the more necessary, since We have conferr'd on Our General not only the title & authority of Genl. of the North of India, which was his former stile, But General of all our Affairs, and over all the English Nation in India intending him ye. same Prehemi-nence & authority, wch. ye Dutch confer, upon their Genl. at Batavia.

The Invoices and Bills of loading will inform you what stock, &ca. We have sent you by this ship the Royall James & Mary, concerning the disposition whereof We can say no more now than what Wee wrote you in our former Letters, and if it be not so much as you expected, you must impute that not to any want We have of money at present, but to ye. superabundance of most sorts of Goods lying upon our hands and the apprehensions We have of an approaching Warr with the Dutch, except they do restore Bantam in manner & form as of right they ought, wch. how likely they are to ꝑform you are best able to judge.

Hope of gettin[g] Bantam or a Warr wth. Dutch.

Let no time be lost nor money spared in making Bombay as strong and defensible as you can, and to be fitted with all conveniencies and Materialls for building and repairing of ships, according to our often repeated Orders to that Purpose.

Besides our souldiers on board, of which you will have ye. certain number with the names of ye. Officers at the foot of this letter, We have sent you 13 Hospitall boyes for Apprentices entertain'd to serve Us 7. years in yt. Quality who write good hands, & are forward in Arithmetick unto which We would have you keep them strictly, & let them at fitting times as well as all or: ffactrs. and Writers be instructed in ye. excercise of arms, according to or. former orders to yt. purpose.

13 Hospitall boyes Apprentices for 7 years.

To instruct all in military discipline.

Wee have sent no Ensign along with this Company because We would leave that Place to be given by our General to any that he shall think fitt best deserves it, & if Mr. Buckley that went out on ye. Caesar, answer the expectation We had of him when he went out, which some doe but too [many] doe not, We think no man fitter for that [and further] Preferment in [our.] Military service, when our General has a fitt [opportunity] to advance him.

Ensignes place left to ye General.

[hopes] Mr. Buckley may [serve] it.

The next ship that comes to you will be [the Society]: Captain [Gayer], by whom We intend to send as many souldiers, as she can well carry, and hope to procure them to be all disciplined men, such as you had out of my Lord Worcesters Regiment by ye. Caesar, and such are some of those yt. goe by this ship but We could not procure them to be all soe at this season of ye. year.

the society.

With the Society may probably sail for your Place a new free ship of our Generlls. being a ffrigott of 20 Guns & 10 pedreroes Galley fashion being of 80 feet in length by the Keel, small depth in ye hold & 23 feet broad by ye. Beam, which is intended to be as good a sailer as ye. Builder can contrive, by her We shall send you as many souldiers as she can carry, disciplined Men, and We know not at present of any other ship We shall send you from hence this year, except some other free ship should desire our licence upon the Worcesters termes.

a ffree shipp intended to be sent being ye Genlls.

We have orderd Captain Cooke to ship 30 supernumerary seamen for wch. We are to pay according to our usuall Custom in such Cases These men are to serve Us in any occasion you shall command them for ye. manning of our sloopes, or other services at sea or on shore, and that you may dem. them from ye. Captain upon his first arrivall there to put a Period to our Charge, which We are to pay to

30 Supernumerary men upon Cap. Cooke.

y^e^. Commander and owners, We have herew^th^. sent you a list of their names, as We rec^d^. it from Captain Cooke.

We are very sensible that in a time of Warr English men & other Europeans are most essentiall under God to y^e^. success of our arms in India, & therefore as We are very carefull to supply you with all We can from hence, so We would have you use all your skill and care, not only to compell y^e^. refractory but to invite the better natured English Fugitives, and other Europeans into our service, wherein spare not for a little charge where you find it necessary, three men being cheaper bought in India, then one can be sent from Europe. And when the time of his Ma^tys^. Proclamation is out We would have you try deserters that offend contrary to that law (for such is his Ma^tys^. Proclamacon in y^e^. East Indies) & execute some of the Principall offenders that shall be convicted by a Court Martiall in terror & Example to others.

ffree shipps to [demean] themselves well.

Wee hope the Commanders Officers & seamen of the ffree ships Wee have permitted to sail in India will behave themselves orderly, and not doe any hurt or dammage to our ffriends, nor violate any of our rules or orders which concern them, or y^e^. good Government of our [Island of] Bombay, If any of them should act otherwise, or misbehave themselves [in con]tempt of our authority derived from his Ma^ty^., Let them know [that] though they are not now under Charterparty with Us, they and all other English men in India, are subject to our laws & J[urisdictions] & such temporary laws as you shall find needfull to make for y^e^. better Government of all his Ma^tys^. subjects in those Eastern parts of the World, and when need shall require that you will try and adjudge all such Offonders indifferently with others, according to his Ma^tys^. late Charter by Martiall law, as the Dutch and all other European nations doe in India, And this is our Express order & injunction to you.

[if misbehave] themselves to try & adjudge them indifferently wth others

Wee send you with this Copyes of Captain Bowers & his officers affidavitt by which you will see, what care and cost the Dutch are at to entice our Seamen from Us, and if it should come to a Warr We hope you will be so wise, as not to be behind hand with them in y^t^. kind of Pollicy, you having infinitely the advantage of them at y^t^. weapon.

y^e^. Dutch entice our men away to doe y^e^ same by theirs.

1^st^ because you know their service and their Tyranny is hated by most y^t^. serve them, and by all the Natives of India.

2. Their people are not Native Dutch, but a mixture of Scotch, Danes, Sweeds and all Nations.

3. Our service is much more easy & beneficiall, & our Pay, if We are rightly informed, three times as much as theirs.

4. We admitt free trade to all that serve us in India, they to none.

the Dutch 170 ffort whereof 140 verry weake.

We may add likewise that if it should come to a Predatory Warr they are a broader mark to hitt than We are, they having in all Parts of India, by the best Calculation We can make about 170. forts whereof 140. of them can scarce make resistance against one or 2 ships of warr 12. hours, having in most of them but 6·8. or 10. white men, who having fair quarter and good Entertainment in our service, would be glad to yield and come over to Us, whereas We have but very few fforts to defend, w^ch^. are competently strong, But We would be at the charge to make them stronger, and as much as humane prudence can contrive invincible against any Power in India.

desire peace to be in a posture for warr.

After We have said all this, We unfeignedly seek & desire peace, but most certainly the only way to obtain and conserve peace is to be in a strong Posture of warr, and rightly fixed under martiall law & strict military discipline, which our Nation in India hath been long too long unaccustomed to, which made Us at all [times so easy] a Prey to y^e^ [Dutch] and them to slight and contemn Us.

warr doubted wth the Dutch.

If y^e^. Present misunderstandings between [the two] nations should ferment to an open Warr, it would be thought by y^e^. vulgar but a Warr for Pepper w^ch^. they think to be a slight thing, because each ffamily spends but a little of it, But at y^e^. bottom it will prove a warr for y^e^ dominion of y^e^. Brittish as well as y^e^. Indian

seas, Because if ever they come to be sole Masters of y^t^. Commodity. as they are already of nutmegs, mace, cloves & Cinamon, the sole Profitt of that one Commodity Pepper being of Generall use, will be more to them than all y^e^. rest & in probability sufficient to defray y^e^. constant charge of a great Navy in Europe.

trade of Pepper of [greate] Consequence.

Now We have mencõn'd Pepper and y^e^. importance of it We must again recommend to you by all means y^e^ conservation and increase of Our Pepper trade on y^e^. Mallabar Coast, let it not be lost for want of a small fort, where a fort will doe us reall service, & since We have writt you to make Bombay so strong and secure, We would have you keep always in store by you there, 1,000, or 1,500 tons of that Commodity (though you abate of our Investments in other Commodities lately writt for) that you may be ready at any time on a sudden to send Us home a ship or ships with advices while your Warrs continue, & all our shipping when your Warr is at an end, and you have no further occasion for them in y^e^. Countrey.

Pepper trade on Coast of Mallabar to be taken care off.

to reserve 1,000 or 1,500 tonns.

Notwithstanding the care We have taken & propounded to make you strong and numerous in Europe souldiers you must alwaies keep a good force of Canoreens[1] and other Native souldiers about you, and get them into good discipline and Order, before you have a necessity to make use of them, w^ch^. will serve for a Counterballance to your Topasses,[2] which We observe are the greatest Numbers in all your Companies.

to [enter-teine] Canoreene souldiers.

We have look'd over your Muster Rolls at Bombay, w^ch^. our Gen^ll^. and Council at Suratt are justly offended with in y^e^. Particulars they take notice of, w^ch^. We doubt not but our Gen^l^. rectifyed at his arrivall in Bombay, it being his Peculiar Province to command all our Military Officers and sould^rs^. w^t^.soever whom We do require accordingly to obey him, as they will answer y^e^. contrary upon y^e^ Penalties provided in such cases by y^e^ Printed Martiall lawes.

muster Rolls of Bombay exd. & found irregular.

We have said before, We will not have you loose any Part of y^e^ Pepper trade on y^e^ Mallabar Coast for want of a small fort, & y^t^. is our true meaning, but you are nicely to distingu[ish] in such cases, considering well 1^st^. y^t^. our case differs altogether from y^e^. Dutch, They w^d^. hinder all Nations but y^m^. selves, and of y^m^selves all but y^e^. Comp^a^. from the trade, whereas we desire only to preserve our own share of it and [not to] hinder any body else, which makes it their interest to have [20 Forts] for one, that we need to have.

not to loose a pepper port on Coast Mallabarr.

2^dly^. [Con]sider, that any Place, that y^e^ Natives can, and you have Confidence that they will defend us in our Trade without the aid or Charge of a ffort, There it is needless to be at any such Charge.

Not to build unnecessary ffortes.

3^dly^. Where the Natives are so weak, that they cannot in a time of War, with the help of a small ffort of ours, preserve us against the Dutch, there a great one is necessary to us or none at all. But the truth is, since our Settlements on the West Coast are so weak, and the Dutch fforts likewise, by reason of the excessive unhealthfullness on that Coast, that neither of us in a time of War can defend ourselves any considerable time from each others force, It seems the more necessary, that we should make our selves at some one Place on the Coast of Malabar, as strong as y^e^ Dutch are at Cochin, and upon as thriving a foundation in point of revenue and subjects as that is, which foundation was first laid by the Portugueez & since refined & improved by the better policy of y^e^. Dutch, And y^t^. we should be upon y^e^. like Settlem^t^. & strength at some place in y^e^ South Seas as y^e^ Dutch are at Batavia, The first of these is matter for yo^r^. present Consideracõn, while our Gen^ll^. remains w^th^ you, & whether it be convenient to o^r^ afores^d^ purposes to inlarge & strengthen o^r^ ffort at Carwar, & get from Sambajee a Phirmaund for a further Extent of Territory about y^t^ ffort into y^e^ Country & all y^t^ point of Land between y^e^ ffort & y^e^ sea, Or whether it may be best for you in a convenient time to think of some fitter place, we must leave to yo^r^. serious thoughts.

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[1]. This word appears to be of European origin and means the inhabitants of Canara, properly Kannada. During the 16th century, it applied to the people above the Western Ghauts and gradually to those in the low country on the Malabar Coast between Goa and Malabar. Vide *Hobson-Jobson*, pp. 152-153.

[2]. Probably a corruption of Persian. *top-chi*, 'a gunner' though other derivations are also suggested. The term applied during the 17th and 18th centuries to the soldiers of Portuguese descendants, *Hobson-Jobson*, p. 933.

Put all yo^{r} Militia of y^{e} Island in a posture of Defence & replenish yo^{r} stores for y^{e} belly, according to former Orders, before yo^{r} danger appears. And we doubt not, but w^{n} all o^{r} Trade & shipping are as well fixed to Bombay as y^{e}. Dutch Trade & shipping is to Batavia, w^{ch} is o^{r} unalterable resolucõn, the number of our Inhabitants upon y^{t} Island, & consequently o^{r} Revenue, wth yo^{r} prudent management will soon double to what it is now.

You must provide for y^{e} Dyet of y^{e} soldiery by a sutler wth. in o^{r}. ffort, after y^{e} manner we have directed at S^{t} Helena, & not suffer them to wander [abroad in y^{t}. licentious] manner the[y have] formerly done to be debauched & poysoned in [the Black] Portugueez hou[ses].

[Thô we have given Lycence by] Chẽparty to severall free ships in India to sail, Trade & Traffique wth. [in y^{e}. li]mits of o^{r}. Chẽres there, yet o^{r}. Resolucõn is, they shall all pay o^{r}. Dues of Powder & Anchorage every voyage they make & o^{r}. Customs etc^{a}. and [take your particular Lycence] every voyage, w^{ch} licence they shall have from you without any charge to them, save the accustomary small fee to your Secretary, yet we do require [all] such free ships when they are [not upon voyages] to ride in [o^{r}.] Roads of Bombay as o^{r}. own ships do for y^{e}. [Countenance] of o^{r}. Island & y^{e} greater appearance of y^{e}. English power there, And [if any of] them shall have the weakness, or y^{e} pride to disobey us or you in this matter in times of peace or warr, Let them have no favour or furtherance in their busyness from you, & invent other wayes, to make them repent of their folly, & y^{t} ill natured or unnacõnall humour as we may call it.

Our Mint of all sorts of Indian Coines, you must forthwith proceed upon by vertue of y^{t} authority given us by his Ma^{ty}. in his last Chẽ and not delay it, in expectacõn of stamps or Moneys from hence, but proceed upon it after y^{e}. Indian manner, wth. such stamps as are made there most like to the Mogols, & wth. y^{e}. sheroffs of y^{t} Country, ffor y^{e} truth is till your Mint is goeing, you are lame of one foot, & not an intire Soveraign [state] as y^{e}. Dutch Comp^{a}. call themselves, & are in y^{e}. East Indies, & as his Ma^{ty}. hath compleated & confirmed Us to be by his last Chẽ, w^{ch} we shall assume to be & manage to, wth. y^{e}. most honour & advantage, we can possibly invent or contrive during his Ma^{tys}. Royall Will & pleasure, & his Royall Countenance & Protecõn of y^{e} Continuance whereof we have not the least cause to doubt while we pursue with all our might the publick utility of this Kingdome & posterity, more than we do our own present or private Interest.

Of Mr. James Butlers 7 years service, you may, as you propound, abate 2 years, not questioning, but he is a man (as you say) deserving that favour from Us.

We have read over yo^{r}. long letter to Persia, which is composed with great care, and with right honest upright Intention for our interest, But we shall never be served well in that Country, untill you punish as well as admonish, and therefore in whatever you know Mr. Edwards hath injured the Company by wilfull neglect, or upon design for his own private gain, We would have you cause our Attorny Gen^{ll}. to draw up a Libell or accusation against him, when he comes to Bombay, before our Court of Judicature, who according to what shall be alledged and proved before them, are to sentence & decree satisfaction to y^{e} Comp^{a}. & compell y^{e} payment thereof, & w^{t}. debts he owes to Us by his person or Estate, untill you come to this, you will never be well obeyed nor the Company well served, neither will you be in a right posture of Government, [untill] you [fall into such] methods as the Dutch have, to do the Company right upon the place in your own Courts without the tedious delay of Chancery suits in England And since Mr. Edw[ards hath voluntarily] left our service, wthout any previous notice to us or to you, he is to pay you permission [for h]imself and [his servants], before you give order for any of [our ships] to bring him home, The like you must observe & exact [from all] Persons & in all cases of the same nature.

25. Your Commission & Instructions to Cap^{t} Lake are very prudent in the main, But we are sorry to observe in them, that you put so much stress upon bringing off our servants at Syam, that y^{e} matter of surprizall is to be omitted,

wholly, if they be not all brought off which we think is a great error, such as we call here *Nimium Cautelæ*.

[1st] Because it is next to impossibility, that in nationall warrs, every individuall subject should be brought out of ye Enemies Country before the War begins.

2ly. We look upon Harbin the Chiefe as a great Knave Confederate wth. & a Pentioner of Phaulkon's, & most of ye rest little better.

3ly. Because at ye beginning of ye War, is your best time to reprize satisfaction for our great damages which opportunity should not have been lost upon any pretence of one single Person's or two's being in ye Enemies power, when we might reasonably expect in a very short time to get 10 times that number of Prisoners of equall quality in our own hands to secure the lives of those left behind or exchange for them according to the Law & Custome of Armes.

26. Sr. John Wybourn's quarrell wth. Capt. Eaton seems to us, in a great measure, groundless, at least if he had reason to be angry wth Capt Eaton, he had no reason, We can see, to run his Anger up to such a furious height as to endanger ye safety of ye ship, nor talk of cutting of Throats, wch. ill became a man in Authority, and the words wch. Sr John spoke on board ye Success wch are testified to us by Capt. Swanley, Mr Wm. Rogers & Mr. Jno. Evans, are of so strange a Nature, (as might provoke any Capt. in his own ship) yt we know not what to think of them, knowing Sr. John hath had experience enough to consider, he was but a Passinger on board Capt. Eaton's ship, & had no more authority, if so much, as he had to take ye Goods out of ye Guinea Interloper, The Contents of ye Letters concerning wch. accon on board ye Guiny ship, have been humbly represented to his Maty. by some of ye Committees of yt Compa. to wch we expect Sr. John's answer according to or. last Lre, because satisfaccon for yt pretended injury hath bin demanded of Us, and yt we may know ye better how to judge of yt accon, [and represent] ye truth of it to his Maty.

27. We have [told you our] sence already of Barbars abuse of Capt. Eaton, & now upon reading all ye Papers relating to yt quarrell between [Sr. John and Captain Eaton, we must observe' to you yt That foul] abuse offered [to Capt. Eaton u]pon his first [landing at] Bombay, seems to justify Capt. Eatons former suspition of [somes injury] intended him, from Sr. John Wybornes Officers, after [Sr. John's] language to him on board ye Success, & in consequence, to justify Capt. Eaton's arming himself, & his seamen to defend ye ship, & ye Captns command against the usurpations of soldiers, wch was never suffered in English ships, thô it hath bin practiced in Spanish & Portugall ships to ye ruine of their Navigation. [Wee] say not this, as affecting either side more or less, but wt naturally arises to or apprehentions from perusall of ye papers on both sides, & ye matter of fact confessed.

27. We are glad to observe yt Dr. Sr. John begins to know himself better & our Authority, & therefore, if in y sence of or. Genll he hath continued to behave himself well since or. last advices he having learning sufficient, We do hereby restore him to his former place of Judge of or. Court of Admiralty, upon Condicon yt he do subscribe to a new Agreemt. wth or Genll. & Councill to accept of £100 salary ℔ anum, from ye time of our reinvesting him in yt imploymt, after his suspencon so long as we & or. Genll. & Council shall think fitt to continue him, wch is the same salary, that we give to our Judge Advocate Sr Jno. Biggs at ffort St. George, who is a worthy learned Person in the Laws of England, was long Recorder of Portsmo: & hath a considerable Estate in England besides what he carryed over with him, And for the time past wch Dr Sr John served Us in the quality of our Judge Advocate, before you suspended him by our Order, you may acco. wth him and pay him in full, after the rate of £200 ℔ anm, deducting £250 which we have paid his Wife here, But we will allow him no salary for all ye time of his suspension, And we do hereby revoke the Commission we since

gave to any other to execute the Office of o^r^ Judge of the Admiralty, and in case of D^r^ S^r^ John's death or absence, We have left it to our Generall and Council of India residing at Bombay, now and hereafter to appoint any Person they shall think fittest to execute that office of Judge of our Court of Admiralty, Provided the Person soe appointed be not Governour or Deputy Governour of our Island of Bombay at the same time, that he is Judge of our Court of Admiralty, which two Offices, Viz^t^. of Judge & Governour, or Judge and Deputy Governour, We think not fit to be executed [by the] same Person. Our Commission for this purpose, you [will receive] herewith under o^r^ Common Seal.

28. We have read over all our Generals & yo^r^. Letters sent to S^r^. John Wyborne and his to you, and we must do that right to Justice, to say, that in o^r^. Generall's & yours appears a sense of moderation wisdom and great care for our interest; but in S^r^. John's over much partiality to Lieutenant Barber, whose accõn upon Cap^t^. Eaton was so barbarous & such a high contempt of the Kings authority and scandal to Government, y^t^. every honest Magistrate ought to detest, & punish with exemplary severity, for preservacõn of the hon^r^. of the Government, althô their affections were never so much enclined to the person of the Offender, & a great fault it seems to be in S^r^ John to offer any arguments in excuse of Cap^t^. Tyrrels taking down Cap^t^. Eaton's fflagg, which he had the King's authority to wear; y^e^ ill consequences whereof our Generall hath most ingeniously, & with more meekness than the nature of that fact deserves, expostulated w^th^ S^r^ John Wyborne in his answer of the 29th Aug^st^. 1686.

29. We have likewise perused, w^th^ y^e^ same indifferency, S^r^ John Wyborn's Narrative, or accusation of Cap^t^. Eaton, & Cap^t^. Eaton's accusacõn of S^r^ John. In both w^ch^ (to do equal right to Justice) we must observe.

1. That S^r^. John's Narrative is attested by none but himself.

2. That it is filled w^th^ very ill names, whereas Cap^t^. Eaton's Accusacõn of S^r^ John, is in a great part attested by others: And in y^e^ whole, he uses no worse language, when he mencõns S^r^ John, but his proper name, S^r^ John Wyborne. And as to what S^r^ John Writes us, of Cap^t^. Eaton's miscarriages at S^t^ Helena: All we can say to that at present, is, If it were so, Our Gov^r^. & Council of S^t^ Helena were much to blame, that they never gave us the least hint of it, having writ us many long letters since y^e^ London was there: Neither have any of the Planters of that Island, which are now here, uttered y^e^ least word of complaint of Cap^t^. Eaton, As strange it is to us, that we should be so unfortunate, that not only some but both the Commanders & all the Mates of those two ships, London & Success, should deserve y^e^ appellation of Sotts, Drunkards, &c^a^. We have thought otherwise, & yet do hope better of some of them.

30. Mr. Zinzan's carriage whiles he was at Bombay towards our General, we do likewise ill resent, not imagining what should be in Mr. Zinzan's mind at that time: He could not but observe that our Gen^ll^. [sou]ght y^e^ Comp^as^. advantage w^th^ all his might indefatigably, & w^th^ more wisdom than [we] suppose Mr. Zinzan will pretend to be Owner of, having not had the $\frac{1}{100}$ part of his experience in India, & he could not but see, y^t^ we did not only approve but applaud all o^r^ Gen^lls^ actings for us, and that his stay in India now is to serve the Comp^a^. & not himself: And that when he should leave y^e^. place Mr Zinzan was to succeed: And why in y^e^ mean time, he should behave himself so disrespectfully to the Generall from whom alone he must hope to learn how to govern o^r^ affaires well, if ever he does it. This is a paradox to us, w^ch^. we can't understand. It is well he bethought himself better at Swally, where our Generall gives a good Character of his behaviour, In w^ch^ mind we hope he will alwayes continue, that we may continue y^t^. esteem we had for him, when we sent him to succeed in due time in that most hon^ble^. employment, that any Englishman is capable of in India.

31. The Committee for Secresy w^ch^. we have constituted for this year are our Governor S^r^. Josia Child, our Dep^ty^. Gov^r^. S^r^. Benj^a^ Bathurst, the Lord Marquess of Worcester, S^r^. John Moor, & Joseph Herne Esq., whose orders, or

the orders of any three of them, you are to observe equally with our own; & we have requested those worthy Committees aforesaid to direct their secret Letters to our Generall singly, to the intent y^t^ no part of them be divulged to any person of our Council, but only of such as he shall make choice of, nor untill he judges it a fit season to make our secret advices more publick.

32. We send you with this y^e^ Copy printed in Dutch & ffrench of y^e^ Memoriall lately presented to y^e^. States Gen^ll^ by y^e^ Marquess De Aubeville his Ma^tys^. Envoy in Holland concerning y^e^ affair of Bantam: and also copy of an Address, we since presented to his Ma^ty^; Upon which we have reason to believe another Memoriall wilbe given in by his Ma^ty's^: said Envoy touching those matters now complained of. And we have seen letters from a French [Merch^t^.] at Havre de Grace to Mr. Herne, importing, that 6 great ships and 2 Frigatts arrived in that Road from Brest, & stayed there a day or two in expectacõn of orders from y^e^ Court of ffrance, which soon came to them, & they immediately sailed away to y^e^ Nor'ward, [as] the French [Merch^t^.] supposed to intercept y^e^ Dutch East India ships Upon which all [goods] of bulk began to rise there.

33. There is yet no news of the Interloper Bear, thô he have been now above Eleven months from Mocha, which gives us hopes, that our outward bound ships mett with him & carryed him back to Bombay.

34. Our Generall did thriftily order y^e^. keeping our Comp^as^. to y^e^ number of three only, while you had no warr: But if you should be Masters of Salset & be engaged in any war, we conceive it wilbe necessary that our Garrison of Bombay and Salset should be alwayes a compleat Regiment of ten Comp^as^. mixt English & Topasses as they now are, besides y^e^ Canoreens & other Natives w^ch^ you entertain for light armed Auxiliaries, hoping you will raise a Revenue upon both those Islands sufficient alwayes to mainteyn such a force.

35. During these presages of war, it wilbe prudence, if you can presently make a peace with y^e^ Mogol on good terms, at least for that side of India but on the other side, We shall never adventure to trust our Estates agen in the Bay, unless y^e^. Nabob will allow us a fortified place to secure our Persons and estates from the violence of his unjust slavish Govern^rs^. And if we be so fortunate as to be possessed of Chittegam, we will not part w^th^ it while we have strength to keep it.

If you find no just cause to command our Attorny Gen^ll^. to accuse M^r^. Edwards before our Court of Adm^lty^. you may notw^thstanding observe y^t^ method directed in M^r^. Edwards his case, in y^e^ case of any other person, that shall injure y^e^ Comp^a^. by wilfull neglect, or any other knavish underhand practice; We having no more disrespect to M^r^ Edwards, than we have to any other person in our service, otherwise than you shall find his actions or neglects have deserved.

With this we send you a List of all the East India Goods we have now in our Warehouses, & also an exact account of our sales in March & June last, and of the Goods we sold out of y^e^ Interloper the *Andaluzia*, of w^ch^ by a strict observation, you may make a profitable use for Us in the future provision of Goods.

36. The promised Medals & chayns of Gold to Cap^t^. Clifton, & his two Commission Officers, We have sent by Cap^t^. Cook, in a box sealed up wi^th^ y^e^ Companies seal & directed to our Gen^ll^., who will deliver them with such solemnity as is fit, to the hon^r^. of such worthy persons, whose future deportment we hope will answer such good beginnings, & give our Gen^ll^. cause to advise of the encrease of their merit.

37. We have ordered you, [a large] supply of Medicines by this ship, not knowing what occasion you may have for them. But if more be sent than shalbe necessary, you will, we hope, be so thrifty, as to dispose of them to good advance to some of the private ships w^ch^ may be in need of them.

38. We have said before, that we will stick at noe charge to make that Island strong & well fitted w^th^ ways, a good Dock for our biggest ships & a

good hulk to carreen by, and all other conveniences for building & repayr of ships. But these things may be done in an expensive or a thrifty way, the latter we alwayes choose, & so must all men that hope to do any great things in the world; Thrift being a Cardinall vertue & leading to good Events, as well in War as in peace. But we would have nothing abated in strength and substantiality of the works, hoping they may be, in being to the benefitt of this Kingdome when we are in our Graves. But in the meantime, let those that make use of them to their immense advantage, and the safety of their ships, & of their lives, pay us well for our cost & great charges, as we wrote you in former Lrẽs.

39. We send you herewith second copies of 2 Commissions under our seal, which went by the Bengall, One for establishing of S^{r} John Child Cap^{t}. Gen^{ll}. Admiral, & Directore Generall over all our fforces by sea & land; And over all our ffactories, & all his Ma^{ts}. subjects in India, the other, for establishing our Council of ffort S^{t}. George.

40. The Soldiers Clothes, Hatts, shoos and stockings w^{ch} went with S^{r} John Wyborne, must be paid for, as all our Soldiers are, which we send abroad, we not having any order upon our books to y^{e} contrary in that particular case, Nor any of Us remembring any word said or promised to such like purpose, althô if any thing had been said to y^{t} purpose by 2 or 3. or more of the Committees, it's of no import except it had been agreed by a major part, and accordingly made an Order of Court.

41. It being a time of War, We require o^{r} Gen^{ll}. all excuses set apart, to encrease his lifeguard of Granadiers forthwith to the number of fifty: and y^{t} Cap^{t} Shaxton have y^{e} comand of them at Lieutenants pay.

42. In answer to that Paragraph wherein you desire us to settle the salaries of Bombay & Surratt, we know not w^{t} certainly to determine at present, because, First, we know not whether you be in peace or in War, nor what you have done concerning Salset, nor how long, or how short yo^{r} War may continue.

Secondly, We know not whether our Cap^{ts} being all of them of our Council do constantly perform military Duty, and keep watch in their turns as soldiers or whether they are only honorary Captaines [as] they are at ffort S^{t} George, that bear the titles, and leave y^{e} [Duty] to their Lieutenants, nor w^{ch} of them do or do not so neglect or performe y^{e} Duty of their Military Office, And therefore, We leave it to our Gen^{ll}. to appoint such salaries to each of them, as he shall think fit, untill we shall receive a full & satisfactory acco^{t}. of our affaires there, never-y^{e}less, We have thought fitt, that our Councill of India, shall take their degree as followeth: Viz^{t}.—

	£
S^{r}. John Child Barron^{t}. Generall ℔ Ann^{m}	500
Charles Zinzan Esq. 2^{d} while y^{e} Gen^{ll} is present at	120
And in our Generalls absence he shalbe Presid^{t}. and Governor of Bombay.	300
S^{r}. John Wyborne Kn^{t}. 3^{d} in degree & Dep^{ty}. Gov^{r}. and the Pay of a Captaine.	120
Bartholomew Harris 4th while he is upon Bombay	70
And if our Gen^{ll}. thinks it for our service to make him Chief of Surrat, then.	120
John Shaxton 5th of our Council, & Captain of our Gen$^{ll's}$ Lifeguard, alwayes to attend upon his Person, and do the Duty of a Military Officer.	50
And the Pay of a Lieutenant.	
John Gladman 6th of our Council	60
James King 7th of our Council	60
John Vaux 8th of our Council	60
Richard Stanley 9th of our Council	50
Captain Clifton 10th of our Councill	30
And the Pay of a Captain.	

43. In the Establishment of this Council as aforesaid, We have taken no notice of Mr. Mitchel or Mr. Walsall, because they are both setled upon the Coast of Malabar, where we hope they may do us good service, and will prove men of stanch Principles of fidelity, without which the best parts are but Weapons against us in an Enemy's hand, But we have the better hopes of them & all others, since they see how carefull we are to reward vertue alive or dead, wherever we find it, upon w^ch^. acco^t^. We have given to the Widow of that excellent man Mr. John Beard £600 and preferred her son a very young man to be of o^r^. Councill in the Bay, and for the same Cause, we have advanced Captain Shaxton, who never wavered in his stedfastness to our Interest but in the worst of times cast himself upon Gods Providence in the performance of his duty resolving to abide all fortunes w^th^. our Generall his good Brother in Law, which we will never forget.

44. Althô we have not named M^r^. Mitchell nor Mr. Walsall in o^r^ Councill aforesaid, yet that they may loose nothing of their right, whenever you shall call them to Bombay upon any busyness they shall have session & suffrage in our Councill below our Dep^ty^. Gov^r^. for the time being according to their respective Senioritye in our Service, And now we have advanced your Salaryes and given vertue & truth its due reward, We hope you will make it your busyness to advance our revenue & interest & make yo^r^selves to be duly obeyed by all under yo[u] or to punish with severity by the methods We have proposed to all our inferiour Chiefs ffactors & servants, that shalbe found disobedient negligent or unfaithfull, We leave it to you, who to appoint Secretary of this Councill and to provide well for Mr. Allyn, if you make Mr. Annesly Sec^ry^., & such others below our Council, as deserved best of us in the worst times.

45. We leave it intirely to our Gen^ll^. S^r^ John Child, with or without the advice & consent of our Council or any of them to appoint how many Comp^as^. to keep in constant Pay upon our Island Bombay, and what Officers and Soldiers English, or of y^e^ severall Casts of that Country shall serve in each Company or apart by themselves, & to place & displace at his discretion, All military Officers, In which we will not have our Gen^ll^. controuled by any of our Council, Confidence in him, being an effect that arises in us from length of time & experience, which length of time may per adventure work in us the same relyance upon others, that in due time may deserve to succeed our Generall in that most hon^ble^. imployment, and when we can have such Confidence in our Chief grounded upon such long experience it is our constant opinion, that in matters of Warr things are likeliest to succeed best, where the entire Command of Military Power is trusted in one Person, w^ch^ most effectually prevents the first approaches of ffaction sedition or distraction of Councills, notwithstanding we think it may be best for our Gen^ll^. in all Cases, wherein he foresees no detriment to our service to take the advice & opinion of our Councill in most Military affaires, As we would have him alwayes to do in our Mercantile affaires except in those things which in this and our former letter we have referred to his sole appointment. Viz^t^. the settling of all our Chiefs Councills and Officers of all kinds at his discretion, before he leaves Bombay to visitt the Coast of Choromandell in such manner, as they shall abide & remain after his departure, untill they shalbe altered by us or himself in writing under our own or his hands, And this is our positive order which we require all of you to observe now and hereafter.

We have added the Pay of a Lieutenant to Cap^t^. Shaxton our selves, because thô we had ordered it in former Letters, our Gen^lls^. modesty to his Brother in Law, and his tenderness of putting us to any Charge, hath been such, as he hath hitherto forborne to do, that right to Captain Shaxton which he might have done by our former Orders. But We would not have M^r^. Gladman or M^r^. King be discouraged for our advancing of Cap^t^. Shaxton or think we have the worse opinion of them which we have not, being fully satisfyed, that they have & will alwayes deserve very well from us, & We will not be forgetfull of their respective fidelityes in due time.

After advising you y^e^ arrival of y^e^ Kent & Phenix from Suratt, & the Shrewsbury from y^e^. Coast of Choromandel; The first thing we find necessary to recõmend to your especial care to be forthwith accomplished & set right without delay is, y^t^ yo^r^ Accomptant for y^e^ time being should duly compare the subordinate ffactories acco^ts^. curr^t^. with their respective acco^ts^ in yo^r^ Books, & to rectifye or cause them to rectify such articles as may be erroneous, For y^t^ otherwise y^e^ Comp^a^ may be great sufferers & more especially for y^e^ transaccons at Bombay, & in all other things w^ch^ o^r^ Accomp^t^. Grãll shall write or object to you, We must enjoyn you to return him punctual answers, & to observe his direccon with y^e^ same exactness as you would if those ℔tic^rs^. were inserted in o^r^. own letters.

We are sorry for y^e^. misfortunes of those of o^r^. serv^ts^ y^t^ are left at Pattana; but it is much their own faults in not coming away, when they were wrote for, w^ch^. in their own letter they say they might some of them have done, but not all: However since it is so, We would have you take care they want for nothing, & get them exchanged as soon as you can.

By y^e^ letter now rẽcd from M^r^. Mitchel We are very glad to understand he hath made so good a conclusion for a fortified settlem^t^. in the Queen of Attinga's Country, & would have you to go on roundly with it out of hand, in such mañer & form as you shall think most for o^r^ service; w^ch^ pray delay not.

Such another parcel of Iron Guns as went to you by y^e^ London & Success, We shall send you; and for good profit shalbe content you should sell them, & powder likewise, to o^r^ Enemies, & shall send 20 Chaldron of Sea-Coales by every ship hereafter.

Delay not y^e^ making a good dry Dock at Bombay, & drayning y^e^ drown'd lands, if o^r^ Gen^ll^ be satisfied it can be done at any charge y^t^ will be repaid us in Revenue within 7 or 8 years time, as we hope it may in a shorter time, since land in that place will certainly be worth double what it is now, when o^r^ whole trade & Shipping is entirely fix'd to y^t^. place, & it be made defensible ag^t^ any Enemy, as we would have it whatever it cost.

Yo^r^ pacquet by y^e^. Phenix we have likewise rẽced, & read over all the transactions between you & Capt^n^. Tyrrel, wherein we observe the prudence & moderacõn of o^r^ Gen^ll^ & Councill late of Suratt, & the passion & unreasonableness of Cap^t^ Tyrrel, & by those papers we are sufficiently armed to defend as well y^e^ discrecõn as y^e^ innocence of o^r^ said Gen^ll^ ag^t^ y^e^ contrary suggestions of Capt^n^ Tyrrel, or any other with you that hath or shall endeavo^r^ to blemish or undermine his reputãcon.

The great price y^t^ Indigo bore y^e^ last year, hath brought in great q^ties^. thereof from y^e^ Plantãcons & from Turkey, w^ch^ hath sunk y^e^ value of y^t^ comodity, but you may conclude it will always yield here about 5/^s^ ℔. lb.

M^r^. Darnelly's friends demand y^e^ balance of his acco^ts^. We tell them he wronged Us very much in his life time, & we have now ordered, as you know, satisfaccon for all such abuses to be judicially made us in India, as in the case of M^r^. Edwards. so y^t^ if you know to what degree M^r^ Darnelly injur'd Us in y^e^ Dragon's goods, or in any other ℔ticular abuses or neglects, let y^e^ matter be adjudged there, and make him D^r^ for so much as yo^r^ Judges shall ensure to be coming to Us, &c y^e^ remainder we will pay to his adm^r^. here, as soon as we have yo^r^ answer, w^ch^ let us have by y^e^ first, y^t^ we may doe y^e^ Comp^a^ Right without any delay to y^e^ Deceased's friends.

There comes on this ship M^r^. John Chase, M^r^. Edm^o^ Poole, M^r^ W^m^ Morice & M^r^ Rich: Temple, Factors, whom we have entertain'd on y^e^ usual terms, and o^r^ 13 Apprentices aforemencõned, whose names are as foll^o^. Viz^t^.

John Allen.	Tho: Coleman.
John Tayler.	Robert Adams.
Willm: Atleigh.	Edward Bellamy.
Simon Cowse.	Jonathan Dryden.
John Dallinder.	John Harvey.
Rich; Johnson.	Tho: Waldron.
	Joseph Wint.

They have signed Coven^{ts} for 7 years in y^{e} same form as other o^{r}. Writers.

And we have sent on y^{e} Loyal Merch^{t}. M^{r}. John Symes a Factor & John Vernons a Writer, who are first to serve us at S^{t} Helena, & thence to be removed for Bombay.

We send you herewith copies of o^{r} Charters authenticated and have not else to add, but comending you & our affayrs to y^{e} blessing & guidance of the Allmighty, We remayn,

Your very loving Friends,

EDW^{D}. DES BOUVERY. JOS^{A}. CHILD, GOV^{r}.
W^{M}. TURNER. BEN. BATHURST Dep^{ty}.
JOHN MOORE.
NATHANIEL TENCH.
NATHA. MOUNTENEY.
JOHN GOODERE.
THO. FREDERICK.
HEN. TULSE.
HEN. JOHNSON.
JAMES EDWARDS.
FFRA. GOSFRIGHT.

GENERAL LETTER TO BENCOOLEN, DATED AUGUST 3, 1687. PER LOYALL MERCHANT.
[*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 169–175.*]

LONDON, 3^{d}. AUGUST 1687.

OUR CHIEF & COUNCILL AT BENCOOLEN.

1. Wee received yours of y^{e} 8th: Octob^{r}. by the Chandos, & in y^{e} first place wee must not omitt to commend y^{e} industry & care of o^{r} chief M^{r} Bloome, who under such sad circumstances did as much for our Interest as wee could expect from him, except in 2 or 3 particulars w^{ch}. wee observe in his Lett^{rs}; wherein he acts not like a wise man, nor wth. y^{t}. truth & cand [our] wee expected from him, which wee shall take notice of in after paragraphs. But it was a fatall and never enough to be repented Error of our President and Councill of Fort S^{t}. George to break all our orders for a settlement at Pryaman upon a Capricio of their own, & y^{e} informac̃on of such a simple weak man as Cap^{t}. Spencer against our owne order, to send our Shipps, spend our strength, our money & so many mens lives upon a settlement at such an unhealthfull place as Bencoolen, because they heard there was more Pepper there, w^{ch}. was no news to us before wee writt a line concerning Pryaman, But wee avoided y^{t} place & others near Syllebar, because they were too near Batavia, and that wee knew by long and [ancient] experience they were unhealthfull, & therefore did purposely direct and enjoyn Pryaman to be the principall place of our settlement, & 1st secured and made as strong as Fort S^{t}. George.

2. But now you are at Bencoolen if our People could finde y^{e} way of living there, and enjoy a competency of health, wee should be glad to continue it for y^{e} good of Posterity, & to prevent y^{e} avaritious designe of the Dutch to ingross the whole Pepper Trade of India, w^{ch}. if they could acquire, would make them masters of the European as well as of y^{e} Indian seas, But untill wee see Englishmen can live better in y^{t} place, wee are unwilling to make any considerable enlargement of that Fort, or to send any more soldiers from hence to be deprived of their lives in so short a time, But wee have ordered tenn of the Comp^{as}. blacks to be sent you from S^{t}. Hellena that speak English, and such other persons as are willing to try their Fortunes there.

3. Your sallaries shall be y^{e} same as was intended at Pryaman if you hold the place, and could make it such a one as Pryaman was intended to be: But

since it is like to remaine a little triviall Factory [&] no Revenue ariseth from it to y^e^ Company, it cannot bear so great a Charge, neither must you expect it.

4. As soon as wee can w^th^. any convenience, wee shall agree w^th^. some Madagascar shipp to deliver you a hundred Madagascar negroes of both sexes, or otherwise to deliver them at Indrapora if you should be gone from Bencoolen, But it looks a little jejune & slight for you to tell us you will enlarge y^e^ ffort there, while at y^e^ same time you say in another paragraph all the men wee send thither from Europe, will be sent to their everlasting homes, Wee must likewise admonish you, y^t^. you are too young to tell us that Barrocks or Hutts may be improper & inconvenient for that Country, you might have said y^e^. fashion of them in India ought to differ from those in Europe, and made more coole and airy by reason of the hott weather, as the Pews in y^e^. Church at Fort S^t^. George doe differ from y^e^. Pews in churches at London, but wee say and wee know, and have found by longer experience than yo^r^. time hath been in y^e^. world, that whereever wee have a Garrison wee must lodge our soldiers in Barrocks, as all y^e^. Governm^ts^. in Europe doe, otherwise wee can maintaine no good order amongst them, & wee will have it so whether you like it or not.

5. But yo^r^. 5^th^. paragraph is the most absurd wee have seen, wherein you say y^e^. Roy^ll^. James was arrived, & you have our own ord^r^. to send her to y^e^. Bay, & yet you will send her to y^e^. ffort, because y^e^. Presid^t^. &c^a^. ordered in case of non loading her w^th^. Pepp^r^. to send her empty to y^e^. Fort, w^ch^. wee look upon as an insolent breach of our order in you, Your Duty being alwayes to follow our ord^rs^. notwithstanding any thing y^e^. Presid^t^. or any other writes you to y^e^. contrary, It was the Predsid^ts^. like willfull breach upon o^r^. orders aforesaid, y^t^. caused y^e^. deaths of above 500 men, blacks & whites, & the wast of above £ 50000 of y^e^. Compa^s^. mony in Demorages of shipps &c^a^., upon y^r^. Coast, and it is as absurd in you, & may be almost as pernicious to attempt to break our order now, when if there be any truth in yo^r^. Lett^rs^. from Indrapora, there was Pepp^r^. enough at Manduta compleatly to load the Roy^l^. James, w^ch^. you should have sent her to take in, & ordered her from thence as wee required you to y^e^. Bay, where her force would have been of great advantage to our designes.

6. As wee have told you wee will send no more soldiers to Bencoolen from this place while you say the mortallity is so great, so you must never expect from us workmen or materialls to build a Fort, to be sent out of England, other than what wee have already sent you, supposeing you had been at Pryaman, w^ch^. are more than ever this Company in so short a time sent out of England to settle Fort S^t^. George or Bombay, or any other place whatsoev^r^. & wee believe more of y^t^. kinde than ever the Dutch sent when they made their first settlem^t^. at Batavia. England is too far off to succour you after y^e^. 1^st^. foundation of yo^r^. settlem^t^. is laid, & if Fort S^t^. George cannot relieve you, nor you finde any abatem^t^. of the sickness and mortality of our men, your best way will be to quitt y^e^. place w^th^. y^e^. soonest & most hon^r^. & least loss you can, & returne to Fort S^t^. George before you are compell'd thereunto by y^e^. Dutch. For wee cannot be so unkind to our Countrymen as to send many more to a place w^ch^. wee know has prov'd a Grave to so many of them already.

It is likewise very strange to us, y^t^. you should have y^e^. confidence to write to us for Lime, while you send us home above 100 tons of chalk by y^e^. Chandos, w^ch^. wee sent from hence on purpose to make lime, & you did not receive on shore y^e^. Bricks y^t^. were formerly sent you by y^e^. Defence & Resolution. If you say y^t^. was for want of hands or [health], wee have little hope it will be better w^th^. you an other time, and if wee should send you lime from hence, it would be so slack'd in y^e^. length of the voyage to Bencoolen, y^t^ it would be little better than chalk by y^e^ time it would arrive there, and therefore wee sent you such a great store of Chalk y^t^ you might at yo^r^. leasure burn so much of it into Lime as you had occasion to make use of.

7. Wee know as well as you y^e^. usefullness of Guard shipps upon that Coast, whilst you are Fortifying, and for that purpose, wee sent you more shipps within very small Intervalls one of another than you could possibly expect from us, and more than wee can promise to send you hereafter, thô wee have caused this shipp and a small Pink that attends her to touch at your place for their loadings of Pepper, wishing you may be in condition to give them a speedy dispatch, for w^ch^. wee have limited them not to stay above three weeks, and have ordered our President and Councill at Fort S^t^. George, to be sending you now and then a shipp to load Pepper, and allways a sloop or two to be attendant upon you, and voyaging upon necessary occasions between your Place & Indrapoora if both are continued.

8. To the private souldiers that are on y^t^. Coast or hereafter shall come to you or Indrapoora from Fort S^t^. George, wee will henceforward allow one Dollar ℔ month pay extraordinary for the reasons you give us of the dearness of Provisions.

9. M^r^. Potts his attempt upon Battam Capasse was a rash unadvised action, and unpardonable, in regard he did it without leave of his Chief M^r^. Bloome, however, apprehending y^t^. he is an honest man, & had noe evill [minde] in that foolish thing he did at Battam Capass aforesaid, and y^t^. he will be wiser hereafter, wee doe confirme him 2^d^. of Councill to our Chief M^r^. Bloom, and to succeed Chief of that Factory of Bencoolen, and of all our Factories on y^e^. west Coast of Sumatra, in case of the Death or absence of M^r^. Bloome, & wee doe utterly mislike y^e^. discountenance you gave y^e^. said M^r^. Potts, & most of all your forbidding Cap^t^. Levellis from receiving his Letters & Papers w^ch^. he had sealed up & intended to send us, (& w^ch^. wee have since received to y^e^. qualifying of our first displeasure against him), except he would lett you have the perusall of them, w^ch^. you say yourselves in the last Paragraph of your Letter sign'd by Benj^a^. Bloome & [Rob^t^. Bellamy], w^ch^. is such an Injurious way of dealing w^th^. a man y^t^. is of yo^r^. Councill, & much senior to either of you, that in plaine termes wee think the better of him, and y^e^. worse of you both.

10. Your omitting to give us an acco^t^. of the Herberts proceedings & what Cap^t^. Udalls Factors on shore did, how many they were, who & what they were about to doe, and what they were like to accomplish, was likewise such a neglect in you, as wee hope M^r^. Bloome will not be guilty of hereafter, if he thinks to retaine our good opinion, & rise to such preferment in our service as his good parts in time may render him capable of, if his integri[ty] prove as stanch as his understanding, w^ch^. wee shall never believe of any man y^t^. twice breaks, or evades o^r^. plaine direct ord^rs^. of w^ch^. wee hope he will never be guilty againe.

11. Wee had shipp'd [*blank in T. O. copy also*] tons of Brandy on board Cap^t^. Harding for y^e^. use of o^r^. Island of S^t^. Hellena, but now wee come to answering of your letter observing your want of that Commodity Wee have appointed Capt^n^. Harding to retain one Tonn thereof [on board and deliver] it to you to dispose of at Bencoolen, where if you stay, you [must hereafter] be more punctual in yo^r^. advices of all ships & Vessels y^t^. [arrive there] & all occurrences upon that Coast, & of what Pepper is [shipped off to all ships & vessels] publick or private whether English or Dutch [as near as you] can be informed, but especially from yo^r^. own place of Benc[oolen where you] confess there is noe trade for Europe goods, and where for [ought we can] perceive hitherto, y^e^. Natives for fear of y^e^. Dutch or otherwise [do furnish] you with very litle Pepper, w^ch^. brings us to y^e^. following [conclusion] viz^t^. That in regard yo^r^. trade is so litle, y^e^. place so mortal & chargeable, & [some] fear of a Dutch warr y^t^. may happen in time, & y^t^. it being so near [Batavia] you can never be able to defend that place ag^t^. y^e^. Batavians in a time [of] warr. We would therefore have you acquaint y^e^. Natives, y^t^. if they will not effectually assist you at their own charge to strengthen [your] ffort, & effectually supply you with Pepper & Rice for yo^r^. mony, you must & you will leave that unhealthful place : And this we [would] have you not only to say but to doe, if you cannot have better [health and] better trade there.

12. And in such case We order M^r^. Bloome [& such] of o^r^. Facto^rs^. [& Writers] as are disposed to go with him, to proceed for ffort S^t^. George where Our Presid^t^. & Council shall have o^r^. orders to give him & them [further] employm^t^. And M^r^. Potts wee require to return back with all [soldiers] & such of o^r^. ffactors & Writers as are content to go with him, We [doe] appoint to proceed immediately for Indrapoora, where We constitute [y^e^.] said M^r^. Samuel Potts to be o^r^. Chief, requiring M^r^. Gibbon M^r^. Du [Jordin] M^r^. Field & M^r^. Stubbs, & all other Factors Writers & Soldiers in o^r^. service to yield him obedience as their Chief, notwithstanding any other order or orders from o^r^. Gen^ll^. or o^r^. Presid^t^. & Council of ffort S^t^. George: And this We require of every of them at their peril, & as they will [answer] y^e^. contrary before o^r^. Court Martiall; And this is o^r^. last Resolve concerning that unfortunate place of Bencoolen, w^ch^. y^e^. great erro^r^. of o^r^. Presid[ent &] Council aforesaid drew us into, without & absolutely ag^t^. o^r^. inclination, w^ch^. always was to make the seat of o^r^. Pepper trade at Pryaman or at Acheen, among other reasons for this, That those places were at the greatest distance from Batavia.

13. We shall send y^e^. copy of this letter by y^e^. Princess of Denmark Capt^n^. Haddock Comand^r^., to o^r^. Presid^t^. & Council of ffort S^t^. George, that they as well as you may know o^r^. resolucons, & how to govern themselves & you accordingly.

14. One dram of Brandy, or two, at the most in a day, we hope may [doe] our soldiers noe harm, but more will certainly destroy their stomachs & bring languishing distempers upon them.

15. Bencoolen hath been so exceeding unhealthfull y^t^. you can expect few families will adventure to go thither on any encouragem^t^. But y^t^. you may see we have made inviting proposicons to o^r^. Planters at S^t^. Helena, We send you at y^e^. foot of this, copy of a Paragraph of o^r^. lre to o^r^. Gov^r^. & Council of S^t^. Helena, on this subject, w^ch^. you are to observe; & if [any] come to you, you are to make good to them all we have promised.

16. The Blacks we send to you w^ch^. speak English, We would have you principally to employ in attending & administring to o^r^. sick Soldiers & would have you appoint some Englishman supervisor over y^e^. said Blacks to compell them to doe their duties carefully, thô you allow such Englishman some addicoñal wages for his care & industry therein. And we desire you y^r^.selves frequently to visit y^e^. sick, & to see y^t^. they want for noe necessaries or attendance, We not grudging any charge y^t^. may tend to y^e^. preservacon of their healths: But in Barrocks they must be kept, w^ch^. in that Country must *not* be built lowe upon y^e^. ground, but with y^e^. fl[oores] raised upon stilts 3 or 4 foot from y^e^. ground.

17. We know very well y^t^. that ffort at Bencoolen is never to be made strong enough to defend itself ag^t^. a Dutch force whenever they will attempt to take or destroy it barefaced with their European strength: But that is to make an open Warr upon Us; & that we should not fear if you could but have yo^r^. healths, or store of Pepper there y^t^. may be worth o^r^. mainteyning y^e^. charge of y^e^. place, because whenever the Dutch are so bold as to make an open warr upon us we can with a very litle ffleet & a few soldiers from the ffort take their best fforts upon that Coast, Viz., Padang & Pollicinco: Besides w^ch^, if we are not misinformed, they have not so few as Twenty other small fforts about that Island of Sumatra, wherein they have not above 6. 8. or 10 White men at most: Any or all of w^ch^. one ship of Ours would [take] as fast as she could sail to them, & without blood shed, giving y^e^ white men fayr quarter, & receiving them into o^r^. service, w^ch^ we know most of them long for, being infinitely more easy & more beneficial than y^e^. Dutch service, And this we hope o^r^. Presid^t^. & Council at y^e^. ffort will remember & quit scores with them, if ever they force us to extremities, notwithstanding o^r^. vehement & constant desire is, and always hath been to live at peace with them.

18. We send you herewith copy of o^r^. Instrucons to Cap^t^. Harding in which you will find something y^t^. is fit to be taken notice of by yourselves.

19. We have sent you two Chests of Medicines, one for Indrapoora and another for your place; That to Indrapora send to them by the first opportunity.

20. You will herewith receive a Cõmission under o^r. common seal appointing o^r. Chief M^r. Bloome to be [Judge of our Court of Admiralty to be held] at Bencoolen, or any other place on the West Coast, pursuant to his Ma^ts. Royal Charter, copies whereof come herewith; And in case of M^r. Bloom's mortality or removal, M^r. Potts is to execute that office, for the good governm^t. of Our affairs under your charge. We are

Your loving friends,

JOSIA CHILD Gov^r.
BEN BATHURST Dep^ty.
THO. RAWLINSON.
NATHANIEL TENCHE.
NATH. MOUNTENEY.
THO. COOKE.
JOHN GOODERE.
HEN. JOHNSON.
HEN. TULSE.
THO. FFREDERICKE.
JOSIA CHILD Jun^r.
JOHN MOORE.
JAMES EDWARDS.
FFRA. GOSFRIGHT.

GENERAL LETTER TO BENCOOLEN, DATED AUGUST 31, 1687. PER LOYALL MERCHANT.
[*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 177—180.*]

LONDON, 31^ST. AUGUST 1687.

OUR CHIEF & COUNCIL
OF BENCOOLEN.

Since o^r. former lr̃e by this Ship, we have r̃ecd yo^rs. by y^e. Rainbow Cap^t. Pool; by w^ch. conveyance o^r. Gov^r. r̃ecd a lr̃e from M^r. Tho. Lucas, a man of great experience in y^e. world, having been in his time y^e. most considerable merch^t. of Yarmouth; & is a man of great parts, thô he has been shamefully abused by Johnson & Fothergill; the history whereof you have understood from himself; & we would have you, if he be still there, to doe him full right, & so farr as in you lies, procure right to be done him by all others; & in y^e. meantime, until you can obtain from Cap^t. Udal or his Successors what is due to him, let him have all convenient necessaries on y^e. Comp^as. acc^o.; it being great pity y^t. a man of his parts & educac̃on should suffer for want in a place where his own Countrymen have means to assist & relieve him.

The said M^r. Lucas in his large lr̃e hath writt o^r. Gov^r. some paragraphs concerning Bencoolen, a transcript whereof you have in a paper apart by this pacquet.

What yo^r. selves & M^r. Lucas write together with your speedy dispatch of y^e. Rainbow, gives us some encouragem^t. to reinforce [y^t.] place, & supply you with what necessaries we can of a suddain & therefore we have ordered o^r. Gov^r. & Council of S^t. Helena to send you Two tons of Brandy, & all y^e. ffrench Beans he can procure, Two hh̃ds of flower, & two puncheons of Bisquet; Ten tons of Chalk to burn into Lyme, w^ch. y^e. Blacks y^e. Gov^r. will send you, know how to doe, & have been employed in y^e. same work at S^t. Helena; As also ten Cows & two Bulls, Six Sows & one [Boar], Six tame she-Goats & two he-Goats. If it be

yo^{r}. good fortune to preserve & increase these Cattel now sent you, & to get dry houses over yo^{r}. peoples heads, We can't despair but y^{t}. you may find or make y^{t}. place hereafter much more healthful than it has formerly been, And if you find it so, We would have you by all means to proceed to y^{e}. strengthening of it.

We have told you before in o^{r}. former l$\tilde{r}$e y^{t}. you should encrease y^{e}. establishm^{t}. of Our Soldiers pay at Bencoolen & Indrapora one Doll^{r}. ℔ m^{o}. in w^{ch}. we would have you to understand us rightly y^{t}. we mean one Doll^{r}. [per month more than] we constantly Pay at ffort S^{t}. George; w^{ch} liberality we doe extend to o^{r}. soldiers on y^{e}. West Coast of Sumatra, upon y^{e}. acc^{o}. of [y^{e}.] dearness of provisions in those new Plantac̃ons, althô we hope in time they may come to be cheaper there than they are now at Fort S^{t}. George, if you can find y^{e} way of living healthfully, and preserving the Live Stock we have now sent you.

There is at S^{t}. Helena one M^{r}. Cox skilful in Sugar Plantac̃ons for w^{ch}. we find by experience, S^{t}. Helena improper; & therefore have discharged him o^{r}. service there, where we have noe further use of him; but have given him leave to imbarque himself on this ship for Bencoolen if he thinks fit, with a promise of allowing him 70$^{£}$. ℔ Ann^{m}, & to make him Third of yo^{r}. factory, below M^{r}. Unkettle if he arrive with you, his salary to begin from his arrival at Bencoolen; & accordingly you are to receive him if he goes forward with Cap^{t}. Harding.

We have desired Cap^{t}. Harding, (who is an ingenious man & whom we think we have obliged so farr as that he wilbe zealous for o^{r}. interest) to assist you all y^{t}. possible in him lies, to make that place more defensible, & to erect dry & convenient lodgings for yo^{r}. soldiers; w^{ch} you must likewise in y^{e} next place provide for yo^{r}. Blacks, as y^{e} Dutch doe at Batavia, if you think to keep them serviceable & in health.

Some of yo^{r}. Blacks y^{t}. speak English, in want of soldiers, you may arm, & make them keep guard to ease yo^{r} soldiers, but trust them not too much; neither ever arm & exercise above ten of them to 30 English soldiers and in an especial manner we require you not to give o^{r}. soldiers any Arrack or Brandy by weekly allowance, but by a steward one dram at a time, two or 3 times (as you think best) in day, for w^{ch}. they are to allow out of their pay (since we have so greatly encreased their wages) as they are for all other Clothes or provisions which you shall spare them.

Cap^{t}. Harding, if he thinks fit, may return to Bencoolen to fill up his ship with Pepper, w^{ch}. he is to buy on y^{e}. acc^{o}. of y^{e}. ships stock & therein, if he returns to you as Cap^{t}. Poole did, we would have you assist him what in you lies, without prejudice to y^{e}. Comp^{a}. He will [leave] you some men y^{t}. are willing, for soldiers & we hope a Chyrurgeon if we have time to gett one before his ship departs; & we hope he may bring you some more men of one kind or other in his return from China, w^{ch}. may be of good use to you: And we have ordered him further to carry to you now what Deales o^{r}. Gov^{r}. & Council of S^{t}. Helena can spare, with some locks & hinges & some nailes, of [w^{ch} we cannot] give you. a certain acco^{t}, because we know not what can be spared at S^{t}. Helena, but you will have y^{e}. certainty thereof in a [letter] with a bill of loading &c^{a}. from Our Gover^{r}. &c^{a}. of that place.

The Pryaman carried an Engine for distilling of water, w^{ch} if arrived with you, we would have you keep constantly at work, hoping y^{t}. yo^{r}. cõmon water being run thrô y^{t}. still may leave all y^{e}. dregs or salts or other heterogeneous matter wherewith it may be impregnated, behind in y^{e}. bottom of y^{e}. still, and y^{t}. such distilled water may become more salubrious than y^{e}. cõmon water you drink, for since y^{e}. spot you are setled upon is so high & dry a soil, We would leave no means unessayed to preserve y^{e} place & the health of o^{r}. people there, being in some hopes y^{t}. as Bombay and Bantam were very unhealthful at o^{r}. first settlem^{t}. but are now both more healthful places, it may be o^{r}. fortune to find that place to be so likewise; And if once it prove to be so, it shall want for noe charge to strengthen it ag^{t}. all y^{e}. power of y^{e}. Dutch, if they should attempt to extirpate us barefaced, We being outgrown y^{e}. fear of their threats of a warr in India; Well knowing y^{t}. if ever such an accident happened, they are a broader mark to hit in India than we are; & we

know their weak side, & shall keep o^{r}. selves always full of Goods at home, y^{t}. we may be at leisure to assault as well as to defend, if ever they put us to it again; w^{ch}. is such a posture as this Comp^{a}. was never in for these 100 years last past.

By our last advices from Bengal, we think o^{r}. warr is over there; the Natives as well Gov^{rs}. as people, most submissively begging peace; unto w^{ch}. o^{r}. Agent & Council seem likewise too much inclined, y^{t} they may be at leisure to follow their private concerns of trade & getting money; But there seems to be a greater spirit for carrying on y^{e}. warr, among o^{r}. & Officers Seamen and Soldiers So y^{t} We can't conclude what y^{e}. issue wilbe; But we shall, we think, certainly settle & fortify there in some place or other; and from thence We shall take care to have you constantly supplied with salted Pork, Bisquet, Wheat, Butter, and other provisions, & wth. some slaves; for y^{e}. greater mixture of castes you have among yo^{r}. slaves, y^{e}. easier you may govern them, & keep them to their duty.

We have appointed Cap^{t}. John Harding to be second of Council with you during his stay at Bencoolen, both going out & returning home; hoping he will give you his own & all his companies utmost assistance to make that place formidable defensible & healthfull to o^{r} people; And that he will perswade divers Chineses & others to return with him from Amoy to yo^{r}. assistance as also prevail with some of the Soldiers, & others of o^{r}. Inhabitants of S^{t}. Helena to go with him outward bound for yo^{r}. ffactory, to the same end & purpose, He being a man of ingenious parts, & we hope a great lover of his Country.

By the supply before menc̃oned, designed for M^{r}. Thomas Lucas we intend only necessary provisions to be afforded for sustenance of himself & ships company, not exceeding in y^{e}. whole, the sum of ffifty pounds, which shalbe placed to y^{e}. acc^{o}. of y^{e}. Owners of the Ship Herbert. Wee remain

Your loving friends

THO: RAWLINSON — NATHA: MOUNTENEY. — JOS^{A}. CHILD Gov^{r}.
W^{M}. TURNER — R. HUTCHINSON Jun^{r}. — BEN. BATHURST Dep^{ty}.
EDW: DES BOUVERY — JOS^{A}. CHILD Jun^{r}.
GEORGE BOUNE — THO: FFREDERICK
JAMES EDWARDS
JAMES SMITH

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT S^{T}. GEORGE, DATED SEPTEMBER 28, 1687. PER PRINCESS DENMARK. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 181—204.*]

OUR PRESIDENT & COUNCIL OF FORT S^{T}. GEORGE. — LONDON, 28 SEPTEMBER 1687.

1. The 28th passed arrived with us y^{e}. Josia & George from y^{e}. Fort, and y^{e}. Rainbow with a very good Cargo from Tonquin the said ship being filled up with Pepper in her way home at Bencoolen, for w^{ch}. safe arrival of o^{r}. ships We desire to be thankfull to Allmighty God.

2. By y^{e}. two former we received yo^{r}. dissatisfactory letter of the 7th ffeb^{ry}. 1686: wherein you argue as weakly or worse concerning the Warr with Syam, as you did unworthily suffer Phaulcon formerly to entice our Men from ffort S^{t}. George, and give countenance to that wicked Deserter of ours Ivatt, who being his Ma$^{ty's}$. subject you ought rather to have secured in prison than suffered to have played the counterfeit part of an Envoy. It's true, any publique character should have given security to his person, if he had been y^{e}. King of Syam's Subject, But as he was an Englishman a Deserter & o^{r}. Debtor, you ought to have secured his person to answer Our debt, &, for his other misdeameano^{rs}.,

But as all ill beginnings will have an ill end, and all wicked Men will in time be detected, so you now see how well M^r^. Phaulcon has rewarded some of you.

3. You are very ready & frequent in reprehending Our conduct, And if you could advise Us to mend it, we should be willing to hear you or any other well-minded person, it being Our own Interest to manage all things for y^e^. Comp^as^. most advantage, as well as for the hono^r^. & interest of Our sovereign and Our Native Country: But your excepcõns to Our conduct are so very impertinent & silly, that we wonder the lower end of yo^r^. Council are not ashamed to set their hands to such slight Argum^ts^.

4. You say it is inconvenient to have a warr with y^e^. Mogol and King of Syam at y^e^. same time; While you cannot be ignor[ant] y^t^. Phaulcon himself in y^e^. King of Syam's name began the warr: ffor what was his embargoing Our Effects and yo^rs^. upon a pretence y^t^. M^r^. Yale injured y^e^. King of Syam in a bargain, but a prologue to a warr: And if some of you had not been willfully blind, you might have seen long before (as you know We did) that his debauching of Englishmen from their duty to their sovereign and service to this Comp^a^., was but a preparation for a warr. 2^ly^. If a warr be just, why not with the King of Syam at y^e^. same time as with y^e^. Mogol? If we had a warr with either, We must have the same force: And for the want of provisions or yo^r^ famine, how could that be foreseen? And might not you have been supplyed from Porto Novo? If you say there was a famine likewise, you might have had Rice where y^e^. Dutch often buy it as cheap in y^e^. River of Raccan as ever it was bought in Bengal or Syam.

5. Yo^r^. pretended fear of y^e^. Mogols falling upon you at y^e^. Fort, is likewise as groundless a suggestion, while his son Ecbar is in arms ag^t^. him: It's too well known in history what he did to his own Father, & what his father did to his Grandfather; and therefore he is like to fare no better by his own sons, most mens sins, even in this world, being usually repaid with a suitable punishm^t^. through y^e^ just judgm^t^. of Allmightly God; And therefore whatever you have writ, it's Our opinion, the present Mogol Oranzeeb will have few quiet days more in this World.

6. Yo^r^. fourth paragraph cencerning Succadana, is altogether as unpleasing to Us: What have you to doe to enter upon new designs without Our orders? Or to send presents to a Prince with whom we never had any dealing, nor intend to have, at least for some years. We can't depend so much upon yo^r^. judgm^ts^. as to give you any such unlimited power, until you give us a better proof of yo^r^. understanding & your sincerity for our service. We know you have had a Trade for Borneo some time for yo^r^. selves, & we wish you profit of it; but forbid you sending any mony or presents of Ours to promote yo^r^. private concerns; All you write concerning that place or Pegu seeming to Us grounded upon a mere private interest of your own: It's not our interest to divide Our force or stretch our arms so wide, until We have secured o^r^. mayn ports, Viz^t^. Bombay, Fort S^t^. George, some one place in Bengall, and those two Places We have already on y^e^. West Coast of Sumatra, especially if one or both of them can be secured & be made healthfull habitacoñs; We desire noe more Forts this Seaven years on that side of India, except a small one might be obtained in y^e^. Gingee Country, w^ch^. would always preserve to you good quarter with the King of Gulcondah's Ministers & Vassals: Notwithstanding We doe not mislike yo^r^. strengthning ffort S^t^. George, for w^ch^. you have o^r^. Orders; But we require o^r^. now Presid^t^. M^r^. Yale & every one of you Our now established Council, y^t^. you never doe disburse or consent to y^e^. disbursm^t^. of any of o^r^. Mony upon any new projects or fancies of yo^r^. own, until you have our express order for it. But of all your fantastical projects, y^e^. most absurd was that of Negrais, at y^e^. time you were in a heat to send M^r^. Higginson &c^a^., thither, before you knew what our success would be in Bengall, or what Our people there had done or designed to doe by way of compact with y^e^. King of Raccar

Noe money to be spent on any new projects without order.

7. We shall give noe further liberty concerning Chyna Goods than what we have propounded in Our former lrẽs Nor have we any other thoughts of those over-rated Chyna Goods you sent formerly than what we have told you in Our former letters. China Goods. G.

8. We are not in hast for any more Petre than what will just make Our ships sailable, having enough by Us already for 5. or six years expence; And therefore all Our ships to yo^{r}. parts of India, shall go out with whole Kintlege [1]Calliatore wood and Pepper you may send us what you can to stiffen o^{r}. Ships, but no more ffig Indigo; Neither send us any Goods of y^{e} kinds prohibited in y^{e} list we now send you Nor any other save what We have expressly with for; w^{ch}. you will see are of no great value, but of considerable tonnage, being mostly coarse goods, & therefore our stores shall not need to be so great to you hereafter, until We have sold off part of o^{r}. great stores at home.

9. We did not think you had worn any other than his Ma^{ts}. Union flag these last two years, w^{ch}. is of absolute necessity for you to doe, & Our positive order y^{t} you shall always wear his Ma$^{ty's}$. said Flag.

10. You did ill in sending Richard Coe hither; but you should have proceeded to sentence ag^{t}. him there upon due proof, thô. you might have respited execuc̃on in a case for words only, until his Ma$^{ty's}$. pleasure were known, whether he would be graciously pleased to pardon him or not.

11. Davis y^{e} Interloper We require you im̃ediately upon receipt of this letter to com̃it & detain in prison until he shall find sureties in 5000 £ penalty to answer y^{e} process w^{ch}. you are to cause o^{r}. Attorny Grãll to exhibit ag^{t} him in Our Court of Admiralty for being an Interloper &c^{a}. And if Our Judicature find him guilty of that misdemeano^{r}. of Interlop[ing] they are to fine him to y^{e} Comp^{a}. according to y^{e} hainousness of y^{e} offence, & keep him in prison until y^{e} fine be paid. The question is not whether he be indebted to y^{e} Moors or not; but singly whether he has been an Interloper & active in promoting interloping, contrary to y^{e} teno^{r}. of his Ma$^{ty's}$. Charters to this Comp^{a}.

12. We shall not again employ M^{r}. Ramsden, nor be so easily reconciled to such as have abused their trust; neither doe we like y^{e} penmen of yo^{r}. lrẽs, for drawing you in to be Advocates for such corrupt persons.

13. M^{r}. Harbin's vile paper delivered you, contayning such base reflections on Our most worthy General, was so unfit for you to receive, y^{t} it was a sufficient matter of it self for you to ground an accusac̃on of him, as guilty of a high misdemeano^{r}. for w^{ch}. he ought to have been roundly fined, to y^{e} Comp^{a}., & detained in prison until he had paid it, And till you can come to this method of proceedings ag^{t}. insolent men, we never expect any good governm^{t}. among you. Our hopes are S^{r}. John Biggs will bring yo^{r}. Law Courts, & especially Our Court of Adm^{lty}., into such a good order y^{t} there shall be more decorum & duty paid to Superiors by Inferiors, ỏr im̃ediate punishm^{t}. inflicted by fyne or otherwise upon y^{e} place, as there is at Batavia, & y^{t} you will trouble us no more with such kind of Delinquents otherwise than with y^{e} relation of the punishm^{t}. you have inflicted, & y^{e} cause that moved you thereto.

14. We are well satisfied of our Agent M^{r}. Charnocks sincerity to o^{r}. interest, & only wish he were as good a soldier as he is (for ought we see by long experience of him) a very honest Merch^{t}., & therefore we would not have you restore M^{r}. Harding ag^{t}. his Chiefs consent, Nor at any time be overforward in determining any thing in Bengal ag^{t}. y^{e} inclinac̃on of o^{r} said Agent M^{r}. Charnock.

15. M^{r}. Gray's fault contains many faults in it, because he was so often admonished of his greedy covetous humo^{r}., & truly foretold by his Master o^{r}. Gov^{r}., y^{t} his riding so fast would certainly break his neck, or tyre his horse, Wee doe therefore hereby totally suspend him *ab officio et beneficio* (as you

[1] Caliatour-wood is a kind of dye-wood from India; sometimes confounded with red sandal-wood. From the Telugu *galijẽru*=Redwood.

will ꝑceive by a Comission sent you herewth. under or larger seal) yt is, from having any salary, lodging, diet or any kind of advantage wtsoever by or. service, until he has fully paid what he owes ye Compa. wth. ye interest of yt place, & until he shalbe restored by orselves by Comission undr. or seal, or by lre under 13 of or hands, ye Govr. or Deptty being one.

16. We are not angry at those yt are return'd home, because we never are without over much solicitacon here, to preferr men & youths in or service. But it's very pretty & as silly to see you make so light a matter of giving any body leave to come home yt desires it, as if they were under no Indentures to us or security, or as if no body were bound by those Indentures but ye. Compa, & that you had noe form of Law established among you to compell persons to perform their [covenants]. For the future we require you let not any man or youth have your leave to come home upon any of Our ships until they have actually paid 12£ each into or. Cash for yor. permission according to or. former orders, & then if they have a mind to wander back & forwards to India paying ye. like sum here *toties quoties*; & their own charges in each passage, they shall have liberty to go out & home as often as ye. gad-worm troubles their heads but never let them carry one qr. of a lb. of goods without paying the full freight.

17. We are glad to find you once of or. minds, wch. we have not done till we come to yor. 25 para., wherein you say it's or. interest to prosecute ye war with ye. Mogol; & that is or. positive determinacon until we have a fortified settlemt. to or. content in Bengal, & therefore we have (as you will see in or. gral lre to ye. Bay) caution'd Our Agent & Council from trusting any considble. part of or. Estate in the Moores hands, or any other subjects of ye Mogol living out of the precincts of or. own jurisdiccon; wch may likewise serve for a caution to yorselves; because you may be assured, if or. Agent & Council in ye Bay have made any agreemt. below or. expectacon, or wthout a fortified settlemt we shall very suddenly demand further satisfaccon from the Mogol & his Ministers, or take or. own satisfaccon without giving him so much warning as he has had upon this occasion.

18. We cannot observe yt. our now Presidt. Mr. Yale is guilty of any breach of trust or infidelity in yt. matter whereof Phaulcon now accuses him; tho' he must own himself to have been guilty of a vile mistake in complementing Phaulcon so long as he did, & in part at or. charge thrô ye. weakness of Presidt. Gyfford, yt had the imbecility to tassheriff Ivat at ye. Compas. charge, who he might easily see came thither to ruin ye. Compas. affayrs: All those glossy pretencons yt. Phaulcon made, being but empty bawbles at best, to please ignort. men yt. know nothing substantially of India; For we dare be bold to write (as some of Us have had ye honor. to affirm before his Matty. & his Cabinet Council) yt. ye. trade of Syam & ye. best would never have been worth [6*d.*] to this Compa., if Phaulcon had meant sincerely (wch. he never did) Neither will ye. trade of yt. place ever be worth any thing to ye. French except they design it for a seat of warr, if there should be hereafter occasion for them to fight with ye. Dutch in India. We know ye. place might have been of some stead to yorselves & ye. free Traders to vent Coast goods; But such a trade shall never doe Us or ye. French any good; nor no thing els of yt. kind where We give so universal a liberty to others; And this you may take for a standing Maxim as to all ye. Inland trade of India.

19. A man of warr to lye continually upon yor. Coast at or. charge, will never doe Us any good: ships of warr in India must go where purchase is probably to be had, or else they will ruin their Employers. And if (as you said before) ye Syamers will not venture any Ships at sea in trade, it wilbe no comendacon of Phaulcon's conduct (who intended to engross half ye. trade of India) to have his Masters ships seen lying by ye. walls by reason of his abuse of his of his owne Countrymen, as we are well assured he hath all other Nations to such a degree yt immediately before this warr, not a ship or Junck did go thither for ten yt. used that place formerly.

20. Barrons return you may expect at y^e^. Greek Calends. He, as well as Phaulcon, is y^e^. very man we told you he would prove, & We shall expect Presid^t^. Gyfford makes us satisfaccon for employing him without o^r^. order, & very ill done it was in y^e^. rest of o^r^. Council y^t^. they consented to such a preposterous & irregular action; w^ch^. is all we have to say in answer to yo^r^. lr̃e aforesaid: We shall now proceed to new matter.

21. For y^e^. Cargo on board this Ship We referr you to o^r^. Invoices and bills of loading; & in y^e^. room of M^r^. Gray we have appointed M^r^. Higginson to succeed second of o^r^. Council, & next below o^r^. Presid^t^. M^r^. Yale, knowing him to be a man of learning and good parts, and We hope of so much sincerity & wisdom y^t^. he will not agree in any thing to o^r^. prejudice hereafter, much less ag^t^. o^r^. express orders w^ch^. is such a palpable crime for w^ch^. no modest Man can offer an excuse, nor any will but such as are hardened in y^e^ custom of prevaricating & doing wrong. And because y^e^ removal of M^r^. Gray will make a vacancy in o^r^ Council, to supply that we have added M^r^. Cawley to be youngest of o^r^.Council of ffort S^t^. George; Requiring you (whereever he is in India) imediately to send for him to discharge that place,

22. We have perused y^e^ papers & accusacons & defences between him & M^r^. Davis of Codalore, & as We told you formerly We found Davis to be an ill man, so We are confirmed in y^t^. opinion by y^e^. papers now rec̃ed. w^ch^ we doe return to you, & acquit M^r^. Cawley of all the complaints & accusacons y^t^. Davis has made ag^t^ him. But We doe require you to cause o^r^. Attorney Grall out of those papers & other proofs w^ch^ you may have, to exhibit a libel or declaracon of complaint of infidelity, fraud & misdemeano^r^. ag^t^. M^r^. Davis before o^r^. Judge & Judicature of y^e^ Adlty, who are according to evidence in a summary way to give sentence in y^e^ case, & cause execucon of y^e^ sentence to be made for y^e^ Comp^as^. satisfaction; Until w^ch^. be done let M^r^. Davis be detain'd in custody, or give bail to answer y^e^ Accon, & not to depart y^e^ place till y^e^ sentence of o^r^ Judicature in this case, according to what shall be alledged and proved be passed & performed. And in the mean time, if you have not already done it, We do hereby dismiss M^r^. Davis from Our service, and from all benefit thereby.

23. We send you by this Ship Lieuten^t^. Berkeley with a comp^a^. of 120 men, who is (under such of Our Council to whose lot it shall fall according to o^r^ Customary Rules) to comand y^e^ said Comp^a^. as Lieuten^t^., & M^r^. Steward (his Nephew) as Ensign of the said Company.

24. By Cap^t^. Heath we intend to send you as many soldiers, but noe officers above Sarjeants, if we can resist y^e^ importunity of powerfull friends, because we think We may want so many English Soldiers to recruit o^r^ old companies in Bengal & at y^e^ ffort; and we think to send you noe other ship besides Cap^t^. Heaths New Defence this year, except some free ships should desire o^r^. Licence upon such terms as we shall agree.

25. We have replied with y^e^ more sharpness to yo^r^. lr̃e aforesaid because we are weary with fruitless reprehending your rash inconsiderate attempts & actions, not only without but ag^t^. Our express orders, as if o^r^ old Presid^t^. Gyfford had not only lost his first love to o^r^. service, but his understanding with it: And if it were not for his former better services we should doe more than speak hardly of him for breaking o^r^. first orders to Pryaman inconsiderately, & thereby being y^e^ cause of the deaths of so many innocent people, thô we have said We hope he meant noe harm in that: But we must ever say, as most true it is, y^t^. he had no manner of order or colour of order from Us for so doing.

26. We likewise take very ill from him his delaying so long y^e^ recovering of Our Sea-Customs at o^r^. established rates of five ℔ C^t^. w^ch^. we will have y^e^ current rate in all o^r^. Garrisons of Ind^a^, & We require you to take no less or more of any person in or out of o^r^. service Englishman Freeman Native or Foreigner; the making distinctions in y^e^ rates of Customs & Duties upon that

policy wch. we proceed, (wch is to make or. Towns repleat wth. people & Marts for all Nations) being found by long experience to be impertinent & unpolitique as well as unreasonable: upon which his Maty: hath been graciously pleased [of late] to take off or aliens Duty of Custom wch. was paid in England for many scores of years before, & we have thought it or interest here, after many experimts. to make ye Duty we comonly receive here upon Bullion exported or Diamds: imported, ye same & no other to ye Gov^r. & Comtees. than it is to a Turk Jew or a Gentue, And if or Servts. yt have stocks of their own under ye countenance & honor. of Our service, with salaries & accomodacon in or. houses can't trade in India with the liberty we give them, to as much advantage as other men yt. have not those privileges & live well upon their employmts. & trade, they must be either expensive Prodigals, or such pittiful Merchants as we desire not to retayn in Our Service.

27. We look upon you now as an entire new Council, & thô some of you were of ye Council when such things were acted or omitted wch. have so long distasted Us, none of ye. faults of former times shalbe laid to yor. charge if you be not guilty of ye. like in time to come.

28. We had thoughts of sending no more men to Bencoolen by reason of ye. mortality of ye. place, & accordingly had writ or. lres & orders for their withdrawing, as you will perceive by ye. copies of all or. Lres writ thither by ye. Loyal Mercht. Capt. Harding now departing for St. Helena & that place; but by ye. Rainbow we recd such an accot. of ye. admirable healthfull scituacon of ye. place, & probable means of preserving or. people in better health hereafter, yt. we have now resolved to reinforce ye. place, have encreased or. Soldiers pay considerably. & doe desire you to use all ye. means within yor. power to preserve it & Indrapora. More places on that Coast we care not for, if or. people there can have their healths, & we can fortify them sufficiently agt. any Mallay or Javan Enemy: And therefore we desire you to send them by sloops or otherwise whatever you think they may have need of to strengthen their fortificacons, erect convenient dry habitacons to live in & preserve their healths: Particularly We would have you send them 20. or 30. tame Sows & two or 3 Boares, yt. they may have some of all casts of Hogs; 20 Cows & 2 Bulls; 20 She Goats & 2 or 3 He Goats. Some Hogs & Goats there are already upon ye. place, & they thrive well, but Goats are yet very scant with them, & of Cows they have none; and therefore if you should have opportunity by one two or more conveyances We would have you make up ye. number of Cows you send them at times to ffourty Cows in all, yt. they may ye. sooner encrease their breed; because that sort of Cattle you know doe not encrease so fast as the other. Let them not want what Arrack is sufficient: Bisquet & Flower they shall have a further supply of from hence in a short time. And now since we have encreased ye. pay of Our Soldiers on that sickly Coast, they will not want mony to pay for any thing that is sent for their relief: And if Our affayrs settle in the Bay, peradventure you may more reasonably supply their wants from thence than from the ffort, and we would have you to doe it, hoping they wilbe always hereafter in condition to return any sloop back fully laden with Pepper either to ye. Bay or to you.

29. If we send any free ship to you, she shall likewise bring you a good supply of soldiers; it being Our resolution now, with God's permission & the King's leave, not to lay down Our Arms in India till we have attained our just Ends, and satisfaction from those Native Princes & others that so intollerably injured Us in ye. late interloping times.

30. We have ordered Docks, & other Conveniencies for buylding & repairing of great ships to be built at Bombay, & our fortificacons there to be enlarged & strengthened, we only want one such Port and such Conveniencyes in it, on your side of India, Vizt. in some place of Bengall or at Tenasseree, and then as we said before, we neither need or desire any other fortifyed settlemt. in India, for this Generacon, except a small ffort in the Gingee Country, if we can preserve

Bencoolen or Indrapora or either of them, and therefore you must not suffer your thoughts to range, much less to attempt, any new invencons of your own, remembring alwayes, that latine Adage, *Non Minor est virtus quam quærere parta tueri.*

31. You may think this contradicts our former proposalls to you concerning Jehore, or Rheo the King of Jehores Island, but upon recollection you will find it otherwise, for when we did y^t^. we dispaired of keeping Bencoolen and Indrapora, which now we do not, as well because those places may be made with time more healthfull, as because we think now the Dutch will never barefaced with Europe forces attempt to remove Us fro Bencoolen or Indrapora, if they doe we would have you, without staying for any Orders from hence, to right & revenge yourselves upon them as Enemyes by force of War & surprize of any of their Ships or Goods y^t^. you can meet with, and of the greatest value at first, & this is our positive order, of which we have counted y^e^. Cost, & the worst they can do in such a case of open hostility begun upon us by them.

32. A Copy of so much of M^r^. Lucas his Lre as concernes Bencoolen you will have enclosed in this packet, & if he comes to ffort S^t^. George we would have you shew him respect, & give him all the Assistance you can to recover his right from those y^t^. have so inhumanely injured him as you will understand if ever he appears to you.

33. When he is at the ffort if he is minded to leave his ship, let him be employed as assistant to our Customers of your Councill at 30 ℔ Ann^m^. Sallary, untill we hear of his being there & can provide better for him, he is a man of years and great experience in y^e^. world, but somewhat too much given to heat & earnestness.

34. Although we would have none of our Councill at any time consent to or with our Presid^t^. M^r^. Yale in y^e^. breach of any of our Orders, yet in all other things we would have them vigorously cooperate with him for the publick good & to strengthen his Hands, to make all our rules orders & Lawes practicable and entirely obeyed, & if any of our Council draw back in such things, or by any words, whispers, Combinacon or otherwise weaken his hands therein, we shall think such persons unworthy of our Service & as soon ease them of it as we know it.

35. Those y^t^. have abetted or excused M^r^. Davis his unjust proceedings at Codalore, be cautious how you trust or prefer, for we certainly expect, and you will find those persons prove false to o^r^. interest first or last.

36. Let none of you think much or grudge at y^e^. speedy advancement of M^r^. Higginson, we do not do it out of any partiality, to him, for he has no relacons here to speak for him, nor ever had y^e^. ambition to think of any such a thing himself, neither have we done it out of any ill opinion or disrespect to any others now being of our Councill, but sincerely as we apprehend for y^e^. publick good, knowing him to be a man of learning & competently well read in antient historyes of y^e^. Greeks & Latines, which with a good stock of naturall parts, only can render a Man fitt for Government and Polyticall Scyence, Martiall prudence, & other requisites to rule over a great City, this we say w^th^. some experience of the world & knowledge of the Lawes & Customes of Nations can only qualify men for such a Government, and for treatyes of peace or War or Commerce with forraign Princes. It's not being bred a Boy in India, or staying long there & speaking y^e^. Language or understanding critically the trade of the place that is sufficient to fitt a Man for such a Command as the 2^d^. of ffort S^t^. George is, or may be in time, thô all these qualificacons are very good in their kind, and essentially necessary to the well carrying on of the trade, & little other scyence was necessary formerly, when we were in the state of mere trading Merchants, but y^e^ case is altered from that since his Ma^ty^. has been pleased by his Royall Chres and during his Royall Will & Pleasure to forme us into the condicon of a sovereign

ate in India, that we may offend or defend our selves, and punish all that injure s in India as the Dutch doe.

37. The great trouble we labour under is, that you can't get out of your old ormes, & yo[r] cavelling way of writing, or perverting or misconstruing, prorastinating or neglecting, our plain & direct orders to you, as if you were not ubordinate but a Coordinate power w[th] us, which has & will ('till you conforme o our known minds and intentions) force us to make more changes in your ouncil than anything elce could have induced us to, of which we hope we shall ear no more hereafter, but that your well understanding and performance of our rders will cause [us] to change the style of our writing to you, as we hoped to ave done before this, for which we more earnestly desire a fitt occasion than you an yourselves.

38. We observe what you write concerning the growth of S[t]. Thomay althô e know tis not so considerable as you make it, neither are we [sc]ared with it, upposing we have, or shall have the means in our hands, as well as a just and ighteous occasion to spoil the growth of it when we please, for you are mistaken, you think we are, so [tame] after the expence of so many £100,000, in fortifying adrass, to suffer such a little place to grow up so near us to our destruction, o wise men invested with such an Authority as the King has trusted us with, nd with such a force as we can command when we see it necessary, will suffer ich a disappointment, which is in their own power to prevent, this is enough to y at present, the rest will happen with time, and the Golcondah Ministers will not fail to give Us a juster provocacõn than the Dutch can pretend to for their taking Metclepatam. In y[e]. mean time make Madrass as strong as you can, and make the Inhabitants contribute towards it as has been often directed.

Mr. Hodges Collector of ground Rents

39. M[r]. Hodges, now at y[e]. ffort, we have good thoughts of, though we know he was for base ends sent by our late Councill at Bantam and preferred before his Chief M[r]. Keling, & therefore we did remove him from thence, and now he is with you, we would have you to prefer him to the first Chiefship or Secondship that falls under your Presidency, and till you can so prefer him, imploy him as Collector of our revenue of ground rents, or on some Office in our Custome house at the sallary of £30 ℔ Ann[m].

40. We see no cause, to find fault with M[r]. Charnocks conduct of y[e] war hitherto (whatever we may do hereafter) if it be true that he missed such a great sũme of mony as is talked of (which we do not believe) We are sorry he mist it, But that is more than he could know, when he made the Cessation, and more then We or you know yet, and sett that aside, he had great reason to comply with the proposed Cessation when 'twas offered.

41. We send you enclosed the Charterpartyes of this ship as also of the Loyall Merchant lately gone for S[t]. Helena, Bencoolen and China, and also of the James now preparing to follow this ship, by whom you shall have a further supply of soldiers, We have obliged her to touch at ffort S[t]. George, because we would not suffer her to follow Captain Harding to China in the same Monsoone, to spoil one y[e] other as y[e] Interlopers used to doe.

42. The Rainbow we are dispatching for Tonqueen, with a very considerable Cargo of our own, wishing she may make as good a voyage next as she has this.

43. M[r]. Bloome seems to be preserved by God's providence where so many have fallen, to be a good Instrument for y[e] settlement of y[t]. place, & therefore we shall alwayes respect him as Chief upon y[t] Coast while it pleases God to continue his life, next to him we regard M[r]. Potts, for those honest principles, which we believe he is possessed of, next to them two, we value M[r] Unkettle, whom we know is a down right consciencious man, and of incomparable parts, But his Talent lyes most in the Mathematicall way and in Mechanicks, He being an admirable Enginier, Shipwright, Navigator, Smith, and almost every thing of that kind, but least acquainted with Merchandizing.

44. While you have two places upon y^e^ West Coast, M^r^. Bloome is to continue alwayes first & Chief on y^t^ Coast, M^r^. Potts 2^d^, & Chief of Indrapora, M^r^. Unkettell 3^d^ to M^r^. Bloom or M^r^. Potts as he likes best, for we would have him contented, being a worthy man y^t^ deserves to be complyed w^th^. in any reasonable request, now you know our minds, governe yo^r^ selves & our affaires accordingly.

45. Althô we have made M^r^ Higginson 2^d^. & y^t^ thereby his principall charge must be the keeping of our Bookes, Yet we doe & shall while he lives in our service, continue him supervisour or Master of our Mint, that being a busyness requiring such a nice inspeccon as ought not to pass casually from hand to hand as Gods Providence by death, or as we our selves make changes in our Councill of the ffort, and if this be a double trouble to M^r^. Higginson, he has reason to be content with it, since we will allow him y^e^ more help of ffactors or Writers to assist him in both those employments.

46. We would have all our Pagod^s^. kept up to the finest of the Pagod^a^. Matt,[1] and in ôrder thereunto we would have you, with the advice of M^r^. Higginson and our Essay Master, M^r^. Johnson to make such certaine rules and Orders as may keep our sheroffs to a certain regularity.

47. We look upon the Office of Mint Master as a placê of so great trust, that if ever M^r^ Higginson should in Gods due time arrive at being President, he shall continue that office, and that authority in his own person, the Essay Master is only a Ministeriall Office, nor shall ever be otherwise, but alwayes subject to the Command & Controul of our Mint Master, as both those and all other Officers are subject to y^e^ check and controul of our President and Council, and if M^r^. Johnson be not satisfiyed in that station, [we] will have him to be, you may dismiss him from our service, for our Intent is not entirely to trust y^e^ Braminy Sheroffs and much less to trust wholly to any English Essay Master, being far from certain that an English Essay Master will be honester than the Braminys, but we would have our Mint M^r^. (and now 2^d^) M^r^. Higginson to keep y^e^ Braminys and our English Essay Master upon such as Equall Poiz that between them both and their little jarrings or competition for trust or power he may find out the truth and hold y^e^ sheroffs to a strict discharge of their duty.

48. Wee must not omitt to give M^r^. Wilcox of Conimeer y^e^ Encomium of one of our best servants on that side of India, let him have [all] reasonable encouragement from you, and if you can obtain leave to build a ffort on that side of India let him be y^e^ first Gov^r^. of it.

49. When We have a ffort at any Place in y^e^. Gingee Country Wee shall need no other ffactory in those Parts, many ffactories especially so pear together being an insupportable charge to y^e^ Comp^a^., which we Would have you alwayes take care to prevent.

50. We are told that when M^r^. Littleton left y^e^. Employ of Pay Master as it appear'd afterwards he was found indebted to y^e^. Comp^a^. 1480 Pag^s^. and that it was 18: months before he paid that Debt without any Interest, examine this matter without Partiallity, and if it be found that M^r^. Littleton owes Us still that Interest let him immediately pay it at the same rate y^e^ Comp^a^. pay for Interest of money at ffort S^t^. George, or quitt his Employment, the running out of Cash being as great an offence as any of our Council can be guilty of, and for this write Us no more Apologies nor Excuses, But if y^e^. ffact be so let M^r^. Littleton pay the money before he appears again in our Council, For We will be impartiall towards all men, as We hope you will be hereafter, and then you need not doubt of God's Blessing, and the reputation of Just Gov^rs^.

51. We doe hereby establish and appoint for a Law at Madrasse & all our Garrisons in India the same which is in England, which is [that] all Goods of any Private Persons that shall be landed or shipped at Madrasse before our stated Custom is paid shall be forfeited, one half to y^e^. Company and the other

1. From Tamil *Māṟṟu* or *Māttu* and Skt. *Mātra* 'measure.' It applies to the touch of gold. *Hobson—Jobson*, p. 568.

half to y^e^. Officer or Informer that shall make seizure of them, and that all causes and controversies concerning our Customes shall be determined in our Court of Admiralty.

52. Send no more of our Effects on any Pretence whatsoever to China or Tonqueen, because We shall mannage those two trades directly from hence ourselves, notwithstanding We forbid not you, if you think it for your advantage to trade thither with your own stocks, but We doe, as We have formerly in the Case of Persia, forbid you totally from sending any ships or goods of your own to Tonqueen except the same be [consigned] to Our Chief or one of our Councill there for the time being, and it lookes very strange and slighting of our Orders that M^r^. Gyfford or M^r^. Yale, or indeed any of our Council to whom We force the Jews to consign their goods in Part, should send a ship to Tonqueen with Effects consign'd to Bowyer singly, if the matter be truly represented to Us by Persons come home on the Rainbow, thô We have not one word of Complaint concerning that matter from M^r^. Keeling or M^r^. Blackmore.

53. Upon a reperusall and reconsideration of our affairs in Bengall Wee are resolved the Defence shall goe directly thither with a small warlike Frigatt built here, upon our Gen^ll^. S^r^. John Childs acc^t^., and to which Frigatt We shall allow Demorage for some Months Service untill she arrives at y^e^. Fort, or whereever our General shall then be. and hee receives her into his own Particular care, that which moves us to this alteration of our former Purpose is the Probable necessity that our Council in the Bay may be under for want of recruits of souldiers, arms &c^a^. and We send the small ffrigott with Captain Heath because shee draws little Water. ffrom the Bay Captain Heath shall come Up to you and bring you what stock cant be imediately invested there, Wee shall never send you any more sloopes from hence, being satisfiyed you can build better at Madapollam, (if you are carefull to prevent our being abused in y^e^. Price of Materialls) of such wood as y^e^. worm will not touch.

54. Captain Haddock being a prudent sober man, We have appointed to be of our Council at y^e^. ffort, and to take place next after M^r^. Littleton during his ships riding in that road, and We have given him Instructions to inspect and observe who are y^e^. Achans among you that obstruct or delay the rec^te^. of y^e^. Comp^as^. establish'd Revenue of ground rents & Sea Customs, and our Peremptory order is that you appoint Civill Officers assisted with a Comp^a^. of Souldiers to seize all goods belonging to any Persons whatsoever that shall after receipt of this Letter be landed without paying our 5 ℔ C^t^. sea Customes, and that you publish by proclamation, Beat of Drums &c^a^. that all y^e^. Owners or Occupiers of any house, or houses within our town of Fort S^t^. George, or City of Madrasse, that shall not pay into our Register and Renter Generall M^r^. Thomas Wavell their respective arrears of Ground rents, before the 29^th^. of September next ensueing, such houses whereof the full Ground rent shall be then unpaid shall from that day stand cha[rgeable] and charged in our rent roll with one quarter Part of Ground rent more than they were at first charged with, and We hereby require our said Register and Renter Gen^ll^. once in every 3 Months to give in an Acc^t^. of his Rentall [&] rec^ts^. to our Presid^t^. and Council, and pay y^e^. amo^t^. of all our Rec^ts^. into our Presid^cy^. to be bro^t^. to y^e^. Creditt of our Gen^ll^. Cash; Wee likewise order our said Register &c^a^. M^r^. Wavell to draw out a Compleat rentall, with y^e^. names of the Owners or occupyers of every house or houses in our said town & City of all ground rents, that are or ought to be paid to Us, that We may the better understand the state of that revenue, and that you doe allow him such assistance of Writers or ffactors, as are necessary for y^t^. [work].

Ground rents.

55. We doe not with the same positiveness and resolution command you immediately to recover our shop rent formerly ordered, But if you doe that at y^e^. same time We shall think you y^e^. wiser & y^e^. better Gov^rs^.

56. Many other improvements of our Revenue your own prudence will invent that shall not be burdensome to our Inhabitants, when once your minds are right

sett for y^e^. publick good of your Country, without so strong a byass to private ease and self Interest, And what ever you raise We shall not put it in our own Pocketts, but spend it generously upon y^e^. ornam^t^. and strength of y^e^. Place, encrease of your Garrison and power, and the Enlargem^t^. of y^e^. English Dominion in India.

57. Keep our Pitch in small tankes made in y^e^. ffloors of yo^r^. Godowns and our Tarr alwayes in Mortevan Jarrs, and in regard y^e^. carrying of Navall stores so farr is a great charge, and y^e^. sales for them not to be forced when We will but very contingent, We require you not to part with them under 80 or 100 ℔ Cent Profftt on y^e^. Invoice Price.

58. We have allow'd M^r^. Rodridgues and Comp^a^. to ship off a Cargoe of Goods for y^e^. Manilha trade he paying Us the freight here, & 100*l* for Permission, for which Goods, and all other Permissive goods on this ship or any other, our 5 ℔ cent sea Custom is to be paid again with you notwithstanding any thing paid the King here for Custome, or ourselves for Permission and freight. In the said Cargo M^r^. Rodrigues assures Us there is not above 100 P^s^. of stuffs of any kind of Prohibited Goods.

59. We require you or such of you as really intend y^e^. Publick service that you often read over by yourselves our Generall Letters sent y^e^. 3 last years of President Gyffords time, that you may be y^e^. better instructed in our Purposes, & y^e^. reasons of them, and y^e^ better enabled to move or argue in our Council, or to put our now President in mind of what of our orders have been formerly neglected.

60. The owners of the ship James being Merchants of the best estates and quality in this City, have desired us to assertaine the Customes they must pay at the ffort, which we have done according to our Generall rule Viz^t^. all goods landed out y^e^. said ship must every Voyage pay us our stated Custome of 5 ℔ Cent, but if the same Goods are shipt again for England or any other place in India, they are to pay us no other custome in regard our establisht rule is, that all goods shipt or landed shall pay us one sea custome of 5 ℔ Cent, but not oftner then once.

61. If any of our free Merchants or yourselves as you say have any sort of China goods or Bengall Goods, which you desire to send for England, we shall permitt them during the war upon the following termes, Viz^t^. ffirst, That all the said Goods to whomsoever they do belong shall be consigned unto y^e^. Comp^a^. 2^ly^. That the said Goods shall pay only single freight home. 3^ly^. That the said Goods for private persons acco^ts^. shalbe sold by y^e^. Candle at y^e^. Comp^as^. next General sale after their arrival, & returnes thereof made by y^e^. Comp^as^. next ships, y^e^. Comp^a^. deducting only 20 ℔ C^t^. for permission & Comission upon sales and returns. We say but 20 ℔ C^t^. on both, w^ch^. is thus calculated, Viz^t^. [12] ℔ C^t^. ℔mission ; 2½ ℔ C^t^. provision & 3½ ℔ C^t^. towards demorages of ships & 2 ℔ C^t^. as all y^e^. Com^tees^. themselves pay for freight & ℔mission of bullion outwards, w^ch^. makes in y^e^. whole y^e^. 20 ℔ C^t^. aforesaid, and is proportionally less than y^e^. Comp^as^. Generall charges here & in India do amount to upon all their investments & *communibus annis.*

62. We need not tell you of your advantage by y^e^ Comp^as^. exact justice and the benefit of quick and speedy sales by y^e^ Company[s] Candle, the certainty of your Returnes, Immortality of the Com[panys] constitucon, and other Consideracons, which may make this method more beneficiall to our free merchants, than if we gave them the lycencious disorderly liberty of consigning such effects to their [owne] private friends.

63. And now since we are resolved to pursue this War upon the Mogoll untill he grants us not only a fortifyed settlement in Bengall, but also pays Us for our damages and the Charges of the War (if we should [miss] of Chittegam) probably you may (even during this War) in y^e^ name & under

the Coverture of Moores, Gentues, ffrench, Portugueese, Banyans[1], Persians, Armenians, or other Princess, Subjects in Amity with y^e^ Mogul, obtain by sea or overland a trade for Bengall Goods, or some sorts of them, [w^ch^] you cannot teach yo^r^. people to make at the ffort, and if your free Merchants Whites or Blacks can contrive a way for such a Covert trade, they may, by the Indulgence we have now graunted, [have] the most profitable and certain trade in those Commodities, than peradventure We or any people ever had between the East Indi[es] and Europe, because as our old Presid^t^. Gyfford formerly writt us & we have found by wofull experience before this war, our charges in Bengall, with demorages of ships &c^a^. did one way or other amount to little less than Cent ℔ Cent upon all o^r^. Beng^ll^. Inves[tment].

64. All yo^r^. Bettellees Podavetz, Cummum, Gulcondah, Oringall Rowalae and Gunapore are a meer cheat upon Us not worth above half their cost ℔ invoice, w^ch^. obligeth us to warne our Presid^t^. and every one of you in our Councill to have an especiall care of Goods y^t^ come to you by new Names. And we do positively require you not to send us one peice of Betellees more of any sort upon any pretence w^t^soever, untill you have our further order for it, except they be striped or flowered, Neither send us any thing not contained or forbid in our list accompanying this pacq^t^.

65. To any free ship you or our free men trade in to Bengall you may give a Pass to secure her from our Ships of War or Privatiers, but we require you, not to give any Pass to other ships, y^t^ yo^r^selves or some of our inhabitants are not principally concerned in, for y^t^ would be a way to defraud the Comp^as^. ships & other free ships of [a] great part of the purchase, they might hope to take, if you should so cover the ships or effects of our Enemyes.

66. And because we are now at such a charge in keeping ships and soldiers abroad, we think this the fittest time to begin to make a Revenue of our Passes, and therefore we require you positively to give no pass to any friends ships without first paying us y^e^ duty we formerly ordered to be received for Passes.

67. If you could bring 100 China men to inhabite with you, it would be a wonderfull advantage to Madrass, they would find some ground near you fitt to plant sugar. & begin many other improvements in trade & otherwise, which you yet want.

68. Now you are, we hope, entered upon a politicall forme of Government, It wilbe necessary you should swear all Persons you trust in any imployment, or receipt of any branch of our Revenues before they enter upon the exercise of their Offices, to be true to o^r^. Soveraign Lord the King, The Comp^a^. and y^e^ Comp^as^. Generall and Councill of India, and to exercise their Office justly & faithfully with proper words relating to the Office each person is to exercise as you see in the Dutch formes our President hath sent to S^r^ Josia Child & some other formes of Oaths we give to our respective Officers here of w^ch^. we send you Copyes, of all w^ch^. formes of Oaths, after you have composed them for the severall Offices & purposes, you are to Copy in a Book for y^t^ purpose as we do, that upon all new occasions of the same nature, you may readily turn to them, without y^e^ perpetuall trouble of compiling new formes for y^e^ same occasion.

69. Its impossible for us to know before hand, in w^t^. Condicon o^r^. affairs & our fforces will stand when this ship arrives with you at ffort S^t^. George. But if it please God, y^t^ we are possest of Chettegam or any other fortifyed place in that province, we enjoyne you to cyltivate it with all imaginable care & all the power you have, In order whereunto if that prove to be our case, when the ship arrives as aforesaid, let not one hours time be lost in the discharge of all her treasure and goods, and order her w^th^. w^t^. soldiers, Whites or Blacks or Lascars you think they may have occasion for in the Bay, immediately to sail thither, & to carry any other thing y^t^. you conceive our people there may want for their security & defence, That they may make themselves as far as humane prudence can provide

[1] From Sanskrit *Vanij*, a 'merchant' applied in general to Hindus and specially to Guzaratti traders and the brokers attached to houses of business in Calcutta. *Hobson-Jobson*, page 68.

in so short a time invincible, And order this ship so long as it shall be necessary [to keep] with them for their defence, And when you shall judge it most [conve]nient for our service to return to you with a loading of Provisions.

70. And as soon as she returnes to you again from Bengall, if you be not provided to give her an immediate loading home for Europe, let her not loose any time in Ryding idle in Madrass road, But dispatch her instantly as soon as her Bengall Cargo of provisions can [be] got on shore, to visitt our ffactories on the West Coast of Su[mat]ra, where you may order her to ly onely two months on y^t^. Coast [to] guard & defend, assist & help forward the perfecting & strengthen-[ing] of y^t^. ffort, and our ffort at Indrapora, if it remains still in our [pos]session, which you may hereafter call ffort Anne, send by [her to] these two fforts, w^t^ever you think they may need, besides what we have ordered before in this Lr̃e, those two places being of great Importance to this Kingdome & posterity, if they can be preserved.

71. Order our Gov^r^. & Councill of York ffort, & our Chief & Councill of Indrapora to return you by this ship all y^e^. Pepper they have by them or can procure within the two Months time limited for her stay on that Coast.

72. It imports not much whether she returne to you a full ship or not; But the more Pepper she brings you, it wilbe much the better for our service, althô the chief & principall end of our designing her thither is as aforesaid to guard and defend, strengthen and incourage those two hopefull settlements, if they prove to be healthfull enough for our people to live there.

73. It is impossible for us at this distance to know w^t^. stock or what Necessaries they may want, because we know not what they took out of the Berkeley Castle & other ships formerly designed for Pryaman, those things wilbe better known to you.

74. Our greatest care is for York ffort, one strong place upon any [Coast] being enough & infinitely better than two weak fforts; If you [have] not begun to fortifie at both places, and thereby impolitickly & [fa]tally divided our strength, which is such an Error as we hope [you] will never be guilty of again; But as the case now is, if we can keep York ffort, we shall not fear to preserve Indrapora with a less [strength] & charge, It being to no purpose for the Dutch or any other Malignors of our prosperity, to show their Anger in attempting to deprive [us of] Indrapora, if they cannot at the same time beat us out of Y[ork ffort]; And therefore let it be yo^r^. first and chiefest care to corroborate, enlarge, strengthen & make y^t^. as defencible as is possible; Because, [ffirstly] Its certainly y^e^. most plentifull place for Pepper. Secondly, Its most probable to prove in a little time, a place of great health, by [reason] of its [ele]vated scituacõn. Thirdly, Its nearest our old ffriends the Batavians, Fourthly, When once its well stockt with live provisions its most fitt to refresh our ships bound to the Straights of Sundy or comeing thrô those straights from the south seas.

75. As we have thus largely told you our resolucõn concerning this ship, so we say in like manner concerning all other ships which at any time hereafter you shall not be in condicõn to give a present loading unto, let them never ly uselessly at demorage in Madrasse road, But dispatch them immediately to Chittegam or York ffort, where the very sight of them, if they should fail of loading, would be of great advantage & safety to those important places, untill they are strong enough to defend themselves as you are, without y^e^. presence of our shipping, And its much more availeable to our service, and the health of our seamen, that the ships you send thither should each of them stay upon that Coast not above two months at one time, and alternately relieve one another, than that any one ship should stay there four Months or longer.

76. On second thoughts we are resolved, The new Defence, and the Generalls small frigot shall stop at yo^r^. place for intelligence in their way to Bengall, But we shall oblige both of them by our Instrucõns, not to stay in Madrass road outward bound above 3 dayes, in which time they may get water sufficient on board, land

their sick men, and be in a posture for immediate service in Beng[ll]. without need of water or other refreshment from Balasore.

77. The Defence shall bring you 200 Chaldron of Sea-Coales to ly by you against the time of need, but you cannot expect them out of her before her return from Bengall.

78. We observe in the Book containing the Dutch Methods sent o[r]. Gov[r]. by M[r]. Yale, not much more than some of us understood before of their affaires, but as there appears in this great wisdom & Policy so since y[t] time, they have much bettered their Constitucons & refin[ed] their Politicks, & created many kinds of Incomes to encrease their revenue w[ch] they thought not of when those Papers were digested above 30 years since, however, we recommend to you y[e] frequent reading & consideracon of what is contained in those Papers, w[ch] y[e] Oftener you read the more you will discover y[e] wisdom of those Persons, which contrived those Methods.

79. Their having all Lieutenants in their Garrisons to command their Companies, and a Major without a Comp[a]. to command under their Gov[r]., we may imitate in due time, but think it not proper at present, untill yo[r]. civill power be as well establish'd & obeyed at ffort S[t]. George, as theirs is at Batavia.

80. But if you could contrive a forme of a Corporacon to be established of the Natives mixed with some English ffreemen, for ought we know some publick good use might be made thereof, & we [might] give the Members of y[t]. Corporacon some priviledges & preheminences by Chres under our seal, that might please them, (as all men are naturally, with a little power) & we might make a publick advantage of them without abateing essentially any part of our own dominion when we please to exert it, And 'tis not unlikely, but y[e]. heads of [yo[r].] severall Casts, being made Aldermen, & some others Burgesses, with power to choose out of themselves yearly their Mayor, and to [tax] all y[e]. Inhabitants for a Town Hall or any publick Buildings [for] themselves to make use of, Your people would more willingly [and] liberally disburse 5 shill[s]. towards the publick good, being ta[xed] by themselves, than 6[d]. imposed by our dispoticall power which [notwith]standing they shall submitt to when we see cause, and wise Gov[rs]. may so manage such a society as to make them proud of their hon[r]. & preferment, & yet only ministeriall & subservient to the ends of the Government, which under us is yo[r]. selves.

81. We direct nothing positively in this, but Refer it to yo[r]. Consideracon, and if you think it may redound to the publick good, and y[t] you may the better adapt it to the good of the place, & y[e] establishing our absolute power over it, and unto some similitude to the formes of such like Corporacons in England, where there is alwayes a G[ov[r].] a superior power, & a Garrison, we have thought fitt to send you a Copy of the late Chre graunted by his Ma[ty]. to the Burrough of Portsm[o]: where S[r]. John Biggs was Record[r]. and therefore, understands well, not only y[t] Constitucon, but the practicall way of proceeding in it.

82. We know this can be no absolute platforme for you, you must make great Alteracons according to the nature of y[e]. place, & y[e]. people, & the difference of Lawes, Customes & almost every thing elce between England & India, but this will serve as a foundacon from whence to begin your Consideracons & debates concerning this affair which will require great wisdom & much thinking & foresight, to create such a Corporacon in Madrass as may be beneficiall to the Company & the place without the least diminucon of y[e]. Soveraign power his Ma[ty]. has [entrusted] us with, and we are resolved to exercise there during his Ma[ty's]. royall pleasure & Confidence in us.

83. Upon y[e] whole matter, if you think any such Constitucon beneficiall, and shall send us a Chre filled up with the names of the first & modern Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses, y[e]. proper habits & Ornaments we shall enjoin them to wear in the Court house and upon all other solemn occasions, and what Maces or ensigns of Authority, we shall admitt to be carryed before them by their proper

Officers or Sargeants, we shall consider of it, & probably returne it to you engrossed under our larger seal with none or very little Alteracõn.

84. We conceive their Court Books must alwayes be kept in y^e^. Englisl Tongue, and the Town Clerk must alwayes be an Englishman that can speal Portugueez & Gentues, & their Recorder must be the same. The Habit of th Aldermen in that hot Country, we think ought to be thin scarlet silk Gownes Their number 12, besides the Mayor, y^t^ they may be allowed to have Kettysol carryed over them, The Burgesses to wear black silk Gownes, their number to b limited to 60, 80, or 100, as you shall find most convenient. The Sarjeants attend ing them, to bear Silver Maces gilt, not exceeding one yard in length, all Officer to be elected by the Mayor & Aldermen, with the approbacõn of our Presid^t^ an to be paid by y^e^ Corporacõn such reasonable salaryes as the Mayor and Aldermer shall think fitt, and to have such fees established by the Mayor & Aldermen a shalbe setled & appointed by them with approbacõn of our President & Councill and to give the Mayor & some of y^e^ Aldermen power to be alwayes Justices of th Peace, as in y^e^ Portsm^o^. Chfe, and to have power to try all Causes that shalb brought before them, To erect a proper Prison for the use of the Corporacõn an to award Judgment & Execucõn in all Causes y^t^ shalbe exhibited before them, The Judgment to goe alwayes according to y^e^ sense of y^e^ Mayor & major part o the Aldermen present, but if any Party think himself injured in a cause exceedin the value of 20 Shill^s^. [3 Pag^s^.] by y^e^ sentence of the said Mayor and Aldermen, The Party offended may appeal for a rehearing, to our Judge and Judicature o the Admiralty, who shall determine any Cause brought before them by appeal, within two Court dayes next after y^e^ appeal brought, and their determinacõn shalb finall in all civill Causes ; & in Criminall Causes any Party grieved by y^e^ Sentenc of the said Mayor and Aldermen, or any Mayor of Justice of the said Corporacõn may appeal to our President and Councill for redress, who shall determine thereo the very next Councill day ensueing, to the end that Justice be not delayed.

85. We think it may be convenient y^t^ in y^e^ said Court of [Aldermen] being 12 besides the Mayor, there should never be above 3 English ffreemen, 3 Portu gueez, the other 7 to be Moores & Gentues, But if you find any inconvenience o inconsistency in the particulars we have propounded, you may correct or alte them in the Draught you send us for such a Corporacõn.

86. All ffines levyed in the said Corporacõn shalbe ½ to the use of y Comp^a^. & y^e^ other ½ to y^e^ use of the Corporacõn, & in regard S^r^. John Bigg went over so well instructed as to the raising of some petty dutyes for y^e^ Comp^a^ in [y^e^] Court of Admlty, we shall need to say no more of y^t^ now, but expect t hear from you and him, how you have regulated that matter to the benefitt of th Comp^a^. & ease of the Inhabitants.

87. As we have before given you our absolute order that all ships & effect you send to Tonquin for any private acco^ts^. shalbe consigned, in part at least, t our Chief there, as Bullion from hence for Diamonds are to our President o some of you, and our Chiefs name shalbe first used in all Con[s]ignacõns, so wil we for ever retaine & preserve to our selves y^t^. duty of 2 ℘ Cent Consulage a Tonquin, w^ch^ we have paid us in Persia, & this is our posittive order to which w expect yo^r^. Complyance & shall think no man worthy of our service, that is s void of hon^r^. or sence [as not to think it] reasonable as well as to confirme to it

88. We have sent only Caps & Coates for our Granadiers, w^th^ Buttons, & other necessaryes to make Coates for y^e^ rest of our soldiers there, where Taylor are cheaper than they are with us, besides the stuff or Cloth keeps better fro the Moth in Bailes than they will in Coates.

89. If you should find such a Corporacõn as aforesaid adviseable to b instituted, It would be most convenient that all debates in the Court of Aldermer should be in English (if it were possible) but if that cannot be at present, yo must contrive Methods to bring it to that with time.

90. If the Officers of the Court of Aldermen should seize any English man for drunkeness or any such like Crime, they are not to be resisted, but every Englishman is to be carry[ed] before the President or some English Justice of the Peace, & not to be judged or [c]ensured by any fforraign^{r}. in a Criminall cause, But in an Action civill or Personall, between an Englishman & any fforreign^{r}. the Court of Aldermen, by the Mayor's Vote shall judge & determine without appeal if the value be under three Pagod^{s}. but if it be above three Pagod^{s}. any Party [ag]greived may appeal to our Court of Admlty as aforesaid.

91. The Mayor and two Aldermen shalbe a Quorum for y^{e} Tryall of Petty causes, but no duty shalbe levyed upon the Inhabitants for publick structures, Officers Salaryes, or other Ornaments but with consent of the Mayor, and at least six of the Aldermen.

92. The Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses, & all their Officers before they enter upon their respective trusts shall take an Oath to bee true and faithfull to to his Ma^{ty}., to the Company, And to the Comp[anies] Generall of India for the time being.

93. The Court of Aldermen may (by virtue of the Powers graunted in our intended Chr̃e) Assess and levy a Rate upon y^{e} Inhabitants for the building of one or more free publick school or schools for teaching the English Tongue to Gentues or Moores or other Indians Children, and for sallaryes to the School Masters, and by degrees for many other publick good workes, their Constitucon being to be so framed that our Presid^{t}. & Councill shall alwayes influence their debates and Resolucons.

94. Your three English Aldermen are alwayes to be the Companies Servants, and when any of them for any cause cease to be the Comp^{as}. Servants, they are to cease to be Aldermen, and our President & Councill are to nominate & appoint some other of the Companyes servants to be Aldermen in y^{e} room & stead of such English Aldermen so removed from the Companies Service.

95. If any doubt arise concerning the true meaning or exercise of y^{e} powers intended by such a Chr̃e, our President and Councill are to determine all such doubts, and all persons are to conforme to their determination untill our own minds be further declared therein.

96. Besides the Copy of the Portsm^{o} Chr̃e to help yo^{r}. Invencon we have drawn a similar forme of Chr̃e with such alteration as we apprehend necessary at present, which you may alter and add thereunto as you see cause, and then returne another Draught to us with the blanks fil'd up, with the names of all such persons as you think fittest to be of y^{e} first & modern Constitucon.

97. In Yo^{r}. nominacon of the first Aldermen, and for ever hereafter you must observe not to make two Brothers at the same time Aldermen, nor any that are near Kindred, but so mix the heads of all Casts in that Court y^{t} you may alwayes hold the Ballance, many other particulars of this and other kinds, you may find wisely provided for in the Dutch papers before mentioned, which wilbe worth your studying and frequent perusall.

98. We hear there hath been a preposterous Custome observed among you for all our Councill to sitt on one side of our Table, and our Commanders on the other, as if they were coordinate Officers, w^{ch} we will not have practiced hereafter, but all our Commanders to sitt below all that are of our Councill, except such Commanders onely that we appoint to be of our Councill during their being at Madrass, and when we do that, we shall appoint how they shall take place.

99. And concerning places in Generall, we cannot give you better rules than those in the Dutch Papers, which we would have you imitate as near as you can.

100. Our designe in the whole is to sett up the Dutch Government among the English in India, (than which a better cannot be invent[ed]) for the good of posterity, and to put us upon an equall ffoot of power with them to defend or

offend, or enlarge the English Dominion & unite the strength of our Nation under one entire & absolute Command, subject to us, as we are and ever shalbe mo[st] dutyfully to our own Soveraign, with this distinction, that we will alwayes observe our own Old English termes, Viz^{t}. Attorney Generall instead of ffiscall, Aldermen instead of Scepin, Burgisses instead of Burgers, Sarjeants instead of Balus, President and Agent instead of Comandore, Dyrectore or Commissaryes &c^{a}. And this with his Ma$^{ty's}$. approbation, we are resolved to pursue steadily & [throw] everything out of y^{e} way y^{t} obstructs or retards, this good & great Reformation Wee remain

Your loving Friends

Jos^{a}. Child Gov^{r}.
Ben Bathurst Dep^{ty}.
W^{m}. Turner.
James Edwards.
John Moore.
Hen. Tulse.
James Smyth.
Hen. Johnson.
Edw. Des Bouverie.
R. Hutchinson.
Jos^{a}. Child.
Natha: Mountenay.

John Creed
John Goodere.

General Letter to Fort S^{t}. George, dated October 12, 1687. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 205–212.*]

Our President & Council
at Fort S^{t}. George. London the 12th October 1687.

Our negative list, Viz^{t}. of what we would not have sent us, is altogether of as much consequence to us as that of what we would have sent us, and in some respect more, for the former is our categorical command, and thô old M^{r}. Gyfford had y^{e} confidence these last two or three years to neglect it, which we have born with in regard of his former better services; We will never forgive our now better advised President, if ever we find him guilty of such wilfull violacõn of our Orders, which any man that pretends to common honesty or the science of a Merchant would never offer an excuse for; And that you may hereafter have no excuse colour or pretence for such breach of our plain orders in this respect, Viz^{t}. That war or famine or the faileur of yo^{r} northern or yo^{r} southern ffactories &c^{a}. forced you to disobey us, We say, send us nothing we have forbid in any case, but rather let such part of our Tonnage y^{t} you could fill up with such forbidden fruit come home empty to us or filled up with Rattans or Canes; Anything or nothing is better than such scandallous affronts to our Government, besides y^{e} loss by such forbidden goods w^{ch} we cannot compute at less than [40,000] sterl^{g}. from your Presidency wthin these last three years past.

Princess of Denmark.

Negative ordrs. to be strictly observed.

£
40,000£. Lost for want thereof.

2. To prevent dead freight yo^{r} busyness must be to enlarge, if in any thing in ordinary strong sail cloth & ordinary long Cloth, and such other strong coarse Goods, w^{ch} do something towards filling up of a ship, whereas those paultry Bettellees of new names which you sent us, filled up but a small hole in our ships, and made a great one in our Cash in yo^{r} hands, w^{ch} ought to have been better employ[d].

[Saile] Clo: & Long cloth fill up.

Reflection on y^{e} Bettellees.

3. From our general Rule aforesaid, we only except such Prize Goods as shalbe taken from y^{e}. Enemy & fall to the Comp^{as}. share in kind; those you may send us, as you receive them, but under new package, and marked with the Comp^{as}. mark, if they are of such sorts as you have any hopes may sell in Europe.

Prize goods excepted.

Silver Coynes to be made & sent to Bencoolen.

4. If you have not already done it, you must immediately set [your] sheroffs, upon coyning Rupees ffanams and Pice, of all w^ch^, especially the smaller coynes, send the value of 500 or 1,000£ sterl^g^. to Bencoolen and Indrapora, by the first ship or sloop you can [dispatch] thither, those places being in such distress for small mony, that our poor soldiers having no Coyn less than ¼ or ⅛ of a ps. ⅛ are forced to give a Ryall for 5 or 6 Eggs or any small thing they have occasion of, And order also your Mint so in the coyning of the species aforesaid, that the Company may in some proportion arrive at y^e^. proffit the Dutch make at their Mint in Coining of their Dutch Dollars and Stivers at Batavia, w^ch^ (if we are not misinformed) pass for ffanams at Malacca, Sumatra, and in all the Eastern Countryes of India, the truth whereof you may easily know from M^r^. Chen[ey] M^r^. Moody and M^r^. Stileman, for the contrivance and conduct of this particular matter we rely upon the prudence & skill of our Mint Master M^r^. Higginson.

In case noe returnes be made for China goods then but 18 ℔ Ct.

5. By the 2 ℔ Cent calculated in y^e^ 20 ℔ Cent aforesaid for China or Bengall goods, for returning the proceed in mony, Our meaning is, If y^e^. Proprietors shall desire us to make their returns in Bullion, But if they desire only, y^t^ y^e^ proceed of their Effects should be paid to their ffriends here, in such case, We shall not insist upon that 2 ℔ Cent, but only deduct 18 ℔ Cent, according to the Calculãcon aforesaid.

Conco good place for Rice.

6. Besides the foremencõned places from whence you might be supplyed with Rice, which we suppose you cannot be ignorant of, one is Conco just within Point Palmeroes, where there is a good road (thô a barred River) from whence many Dutch ships and Juncks are loaded yearly with boiled Rice for Zelon, Maldives, Atcheen &c^a^. and we hope you know y^t^ such boiled Rice is only fit for keeping a year or two, and that the Wevell will not touch it, [and] therefore that is most fit for you alwayes to lay up the greatest stores of, for the Companies acco^t^. and when you have peace in Bengall, the Contract for any ships loading of Rice to be shipt in Conco Road may be made with Persons that dwell at Ballasore, the usuall price is seaven Maunds of such boiled Rice [for one Rupee] thô M^r^. Read and others assure us, that in some years of great plenty fourteen Maunds of Rice of lb. wtt. 75 to the maund hath been bought for one Rupee, the people of that place are not subject to y^e^ Mogol, but live under Rajahs or Jemmidars that have frequent wars with the Mogols Gov^r^. in Orixa, and therefore doubtless you may have trade with them during the continuance of this War. Captain Haddock being convinced of y^e^ necessity of raising a good revenue to maintain and support the English interest in India hath promised us to be willingly exemplar in payment of our Custome of 5 ℔ Cent for his Wines and all other goods (by w^ch^ ingenuity and demonstracõn of his Love to his native Country he shall loose nothing in conclusion), and we do charge & require you to cause all other wine and all other Goods on board his ship the Princess of Denmark, and all other ships whatsoever to pay now and in all time to come, the like Custome from England, and all other places, ffor the poor people which have nothing to pay towards your new Walls and Fortificacons you may tax each of them at 10 or 14 dayes labour to be performed in your Trenches or otherwise in their own Persons, and if their poverty be so extream that they cannot maintain themselves during the dayes allotted for their labour in such publick work, you may allow them a reasonable proportion of Rice each day, but let everything be contrived & carryed on with y^e^ least charge to the Company you can invent, but omit nothing that art or mony can do for your security against Enemies of any kind.

7 maunds ℔ Rupee.

Sometimes 14.

All Wynes, etc. out Engld. to pay Custome here.

ye poore that can not pay Tax, to worke.

more writers andffactors. sent.

7. Thrô the almost irresistable importunityes of ffriends we have sent you more Writers and ffactors then we can apprehend you should have present occasion to make use of, but if you observe our Orders in expelling from our service such as misbehave themselves and keep the rest exercised in Armes as our Artillery men in London are, at leisure times when you have no proper

writing work to set them about, they will upon a need be some addiconall weight to the ballance of your English Power, and the charge of such supernumeraries, y^e^ more supportable to us, but however we intend to forbear sending you any more then we have already promised untill we understand from yourselves that you have more need of them.

8. If we should have Peace restored in Bengall and liberty to fortifie in as many places as we pleased, we would never wish to have more than one strong fortified settlement in that Country (not again to separate our strength or divide our force) and that only at Chittegam, but in case of peace we would have Maulda ffactory restored again rather than Dacca, because Maulda Clo[th] is much cheaper and all Cloth almost that we have had from Dacca was bought about or near to Maulda, w^ch^ before it comes to be sold to us at Dacca pays a great Duty to the Nabobs Officers, w^ch^. must afterwards be considered in the price of the Cloth. Malda ffactory to be restored rather than Dacca.

9. We have sold these two last sales near 90,000 peices of Long Cloth, and althô we have a pretty quantity left, yet we order & enjoyn you to dispatch an early ship to us in July or August next after the arrivall of this ship principally loaden with y^t^ commodity & Sallampores & other coarse Goods, w^ch^ ship wintering at Mauritius may probably be with us here in ffeb^ry^. w^ch^. will be very opportune for our ensuing March sale. more long cloth to be sent.

10. In yo^r^. Pettipolee Bookes commencing primo May 1685 and concluding 30^th^: April 1686 our Spend-Thrifts there make their charge to amount to Pag^s^. fan Cash 2785: 26: 4: including 619 Pag^s^ for interest by them paid, so that there remaines 2166 Pag^s^. only for charges of the ffactory, whereof 1158: Pag^s^. is charged for servant[s] wages of 4 ffactors and Writers, and in all that time they neither bought nor sold one penny worth of India or Europe goods, by w^ch^ you may observe to what excess, prodigall young-men & boyes will run into if they be not checked by wiser or honester superiours, w^ch^. it's your Duty to do and we expect it from you, and that you will limit the expence of all such Out-ffactories to a certain moderate rate by consultacon, and whoever exceeds yo^r^ limited allowances, turn them immediately out of our service, & cause your Attorney Generall to proceed against them in our Court of Admiralty, and compell them to pay for their own excesses or lie in Goal till they or their ffriends here have paid it for them. extravegency at Pettepolee.

11. Send us w^t^. Goods of the Bengall sorts you can perswade yo^r^. workemen at the ffort to make, but send us no Bengall or China Goods bought at the ffort for the Comp^as^. acco^t^. because we designe our own stock to be imployed only in longcloth and other [bulky] Goods as aforesaid, as also because we have given a generall licence to our ffreemen on the termes aforesaid to send them hither for their own Acco^ts^. (we mean such sorts only as are contained in our Bengall list), because with other sorts we are sufficiently stock[ed] for some time, and those in our List will turn to best acco^t^. and you may be confident that being well bought they will turne the interessed to very great advantage, it being our desire they should thrive & grow rich honestly by y^e^ liberty we give them. to make Bengalla goods here.

12. We have mencõned often to you an Attorney Generall, an Officer & an Office, w^ch^ many years since they understõod at Bombay and have alwayes one, which place Thornbouru took upon him in the time of the rebellion, but our old President Gyfford did so neglect all our Orders, y^t^ we know not yet whither you have constituted any such necessary Officer, if you have not, let it be immediately done, and the person chosen such as o^r^ Judge Advocate S^r^. John Biggs shall approve off, and doe you appoint him such reasonable Sallary and such equitable fees that he may confortably subsist upon his employment, and may not be over burdensome to the inhabitants. an Attourny Genll. officer & office.

13. We are at present so well satisfied in the Councell we have now made choice of for the ffort, that we will have none of them remov[ed] from thence or Satisfied w^th^ present Councell.

displaced upon any pretence or busyness whatsoever without our own Order in writing.

[T]onkeene Settled; none to be removed.

14. We have settled Tonqueen ffactory as we would have it, and we will not have the Chief or any ffactor or Writer there removed [by] you, nor any more ffactors or Writers sent thither, but such as we shall send our selves from hence.

15. The Owners of the Loyall Cap^{t}. have been with us to desire they may enjoy the liberty of that Indulgence w^{ch} we have granted for Bengall goods and Pepper, intending their ship home loaden with those indulged Commodities, we have told them, that our Indulgence as to Bengall Goods upon the termes before mencõnd extends to no Bengall goods, but such only as are contained in a List, which we have sent you for that purpose and given them a copy of, and to such onely of them as shall be loaden on our own ships & consigned to the Company upon the same ffreight the Comp^{a}. pay. But for Pepper, the Cap^{t}. giving you an obligaõn that all he loads shalbe consigned to the Company as the Owners have done here, you may give him Permission to fill up his ship at Bencoolen, Indrapora or any other place in India where [Pepper] is to be had, he and his Owners being to pay us as other free ships do one Penny ℔ Pound for all w^{ch} he shall bring home, and we [w^{d}.] not only have you give the Cap^{t}. this agreed liberty, but all the furtherance that is in your power, to procure his loading and to recommend him very well to our ffactors at any place where he designes to load, that if he should not be able to procure Pepper himself our ffactors may assist him or spare him of our own Pepper at prime cost and charges for his money, what they can conveniently spare without detriment of the loading any of our own ships, we give all the encouragement we can possibly invent to designes of this nature, because we look upon them as a nationall Advantage, and the readiest means at hand to obviate that pernicious designe, which the Dutch have had a long time to engross the whole Pepper trade.

Ye Loyll Capt. permitted to Lade home wth pepper.

To ffurther & assist Capt. Eldred.

16. Our Gov^{r}. and Dep^{ty}. Gov^{r}. have had the honour of discoursing very fully with his Majesty concerning our designed Incorporacõn of our City of Madrass and Town of Fort S^{t}. George, which his Ma^{ty}. exceeding well approved of as being a further approach towards the full exercise of that Soveraign Power or Jura Regalia which his Ma^{ty}. trusts us with in India, and is very sensible that without the full extent of such Power delegated to us and exercised by us as the Dutch Company have and exercise in India, we can't hold up the English interest in a time of trouble or War, but the said Chr̃e being long is not yet read in the Cabinet Councill, and peradventure the Novelty of it may administer some debate at the reading of it, which may retard our sending it you engrossed under our Seal by this ship, but his Ma^{ty}. will have it passed, and we shall undoubtedly send it you by Captain Heath, for which purpose, we have bespoke two Maces to be carryed before our Mayor, and a larger Mace and Sword to be carryed before our Generall, with a silver Oar to be carryed before our Judge Advocate, which will all be ready to be sent you with our Charter, in which, there wilbe nothing now for you to correct or alter, because it will come to you engrossed with his Ma^{tyes}. royall Signature, as well as under our larger Seal, but if there be hereafter need to add any supplymentall Powers to the said Corporacõn, when we see reason for it, we can do that by some addiõnall Chr̃e hereafter.

17. Although we have given license as aforesaid for Bengall and China Goods to be sent hither, yet it must be yo^{r}. care upon the first landing of any such goods at the ffort duly & impartially to collect our Duty of 5 ℔ Cent Custome.

to send a sloope wth. pepp. from We[st coast] to Tonkeene.

18. We have formerly writt you to order M^{r}. Bloom, when he can spare so much Pepper from y^{e}. loading our Europe ships that is without delaying any of them upon Demorage, that he should send a good sloop of Eighty or Ninety Tons loaden wth Pepper from Bencoolen to Tonqueen, consigning the same to our Chief [&] Council there, It being our purpose to keep that ffactory alwayes supplyed with Pepper sufficient to answer that Market, whither we gain little or much by it, of w^{ch} we shall write M^{r}. Bloom largely by a free ship, that is to

goe from hence thither about Christmas next, by w^ch^ ship we shall likewise recruit with soldiers.

P. S.

There take Passage on this ship M^r^. Nathan^l^. Halsey, M^r^. John Kettell & M^r^. Dan^l^. Gosfreight whom Wee have entertained as ffactors, and Amaulry De la Saugere, Trevor Games, William ffowles & Joseph Chapman for Writers at y^e^ usuall sallaries for 5 years each.

Yo^r^. Loveng friends

JOHN MOORE.	JOS^A^. CHILD Gov^r^.
PETER JOYE.	BEN. BATHURST Dep^ty^.
W^M^. SEDGWICKE.	BERKELEY.
NATHANIEL TENCHE.	HEN: JOHNSON.
THO: RAWLINSON.	EDW DES. BOUVERIE.
JOHN GOODERE.	JAMES SMYTH.
	JOS^A^. CHILD.
	JO: CREED.
	R. HUTCHINSON.
	NATHA: MOUNTENEY.

* *Postcript*

Since the former Paragraph intimating y^e^. liberty Wee give our servants and Freemen to trade hither in Bengall Goods contained in our List upon the terms proposed, some Persons sending out Mony for that Purpose having desired Us to explain our meaning as to the time of the liberty, because the Words in that liberty are, during the time of this present warr, which Warr they say may probably be at an end before the arrivall of Our ships, and in such Case they shall suffer great disappointment, Therefore Wee have thought fitt for the satisfaction of all Persons that are or may be concerned in that trade upon our Encouragem^t^. to declare, that this Indulgence of trading in Bengall Goods shall continue for 6. months after y^e^ arrivall of this ship, if Peace should be made before, and if the Warr should continue till after this ships arrivall, We shall give them 6 months time for this Indulgence from and after the making and concluding of Peace there.

Liberty for 6 mos. after this shipps arrivall to send home Bengalla etc^a^. goods.

Wee have had complaints from severall of the Adventurers that they have of late paid ten ℔ Cent for Comission on Diamonds sent from the ffort, the Occasion whereof Wee know not unless it has arisen by reason of the Famine and Warr in those Parts, but for y^e^ future Wee require that none of them be exacted upon nor put to further Charge than the Usuall Comission formerly allow'd, which never exceeded 7½ ℔ Cent at most, to live and lett live will hold longest with all Partyes and in all Cases. Wee are.

[Co]mplaints of ye. Dyamond adventurrs.

Your loving Friends

JOS^A^. CHILD.	JOS^A^. CHILD, Gov^r^.
W^M^. SEDGWICKE.	JAMES SMYTH.
THO: RAWLINSON.	EDW. DES BOUVERIE.
JOHN GOODERE.	PETER JOYE.
	NATHANIEL TENCHE.

GENERAL LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT AT FORT ST. GEORGE, DATED DECEMBER 12, 1687. PER PRINCESS OF DENMARK. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 213–214.*]

LONDON THE 12^th^ OF DECEMBER 1687.

M^R^. ELIHU YALE.

The Governour & Deputy were commanded last night being Sunday to attend his Majestie at the Cabinet Council, where our intended Charter for

* [There is no postcript in the T. O. copy, the two paragraphs are included in the letter.]

incorporateing Fort S^{t}: George into a Body Pollitick consisting of a Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses was largely debated before his Majestie. One of the Council (being a Lawyer) seemed to be of opinion that it was best the Charter should pass immediately by the King under the great Seal of England, his Majestie asked the Governour his opinion, who replied that what his Maj^{tie}. thought best the Company would alwaies think so, but if his Majestie expected the Governour's private opinion, he said he had ever been of opinion that no Person in India should be imployed by immediate Commission from his Majestie, because if they were it would be prejudiciall to our service, by their arrogancy, & prejudiciall to themselves, because the Wind of extraordinary honour in their heads would probably make them so haughty & over bearing that in a little time we should be forced to remove them, & we instanced particularly in S^{r}. Jn^{o}: Wyborne & D^{r}. S^{t}: Johns, In conclusion his Majestie did so apprehend it as to think it best that the Charter should go under our own Seal, because the Corporation must be alwaies in some measure subject to the controul of our President & Council, & so at length it was agreed, & the Charter is now engrossing, & you will have it by Captain Heath.

The two Maces to be carryed before the Mayor, we have desired M^{r}. Rodridgues to pay for, not doubting but the Corporation will be so just and ingenious as to reimburse him, but the great Mace & sword, which is to be carryed before the Generall, or the President for the time being in absence of the Generall, & the Silver Oar to be carryed before our Judge Advocate will be paid for by the Company.

We have had many changes in Captain Barclays Officers; & he [now] writes from the Downes, that his brother may be excused from [being an] Ensign, and that we would accept off another Relation of his M^{r}. Steward, but the Court of Committees resolve to make no more [alteration] so that if Captain Barclays Brother go not Ensign, you many prefer any Person to that Office there that you think merits it, & hereafter imploy M^{r}. Steward in any place that you shall see he may deserve, he is under a fair Character, and we hope he is a sober honest gentleman.

There are severall opinions that have been offered his Majestie concerning the number of men, women, & children, within our City of Madrass, and Towne of Fort S^{t}: George. Some of us remember Cap^{n}. Wilshaw when he last came from thence, said that you had made a computation, and found the whole number of Souls within & without the City, within the Comp^{as}. own Bounds (supposing your Mussulah Village to be taken in) did amount to three hundred thousand men, women, and children, free people & slaves.

And to the end that we may be able to give his Majestie a certain account, we desire you to make a new computation of the whole Viz^{t}. how many Englishmen, women, & Children are there, the like of Portuguez, Jewes, and of all your severall Casts whatsoever, with their distinct Religions, Viz^{t}. Whether Moores or Jentues, & how many of each as near as you can, & of what Professions & Occupations.

We do not this out of any vain glory or ostentation, but merely to satisfie his Maj^{tie}: & the better to comport our government by ballancing of the severall powers or numbers under your Government. Wee remain

Your loving Friends

W^{M}. Sedgwicke.	Jos^{A}. Child.	Jos^{A}. Child, G^{ovr}.
Nathaniel Tenche.	George Boun.	John Moore.
Hen: Tulse.	Edward Des Bouverie.	James Smyth.
	Peter Joye.	Tho: Rawlinson.
		Joseph Herne.

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT ST. GEORGE, DATED DECEMBER 12, 1687. PER JAMES.
[*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 217–212.*]

LONDON THE 12th OF DECEMBER 1687.

OUR PRESIDENT & COUNCILL
AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

James. The dispatch of this ship comes so quick upon us after the departure of the Princess of Denmark, and before the arrivall of any fresh newes from India, that we find little to add to the duplicates of our former advices ℔ Capt. Haddock, more then to tell you that the Cassia Lignum by the Adventure from Mindanao proved very good, thô it were in probability many years old, and we are apt to think, that fresh Cassia Lignum from that place, Vizt. Mindanao would be esteemed here not much inferiour to Cinamon of Ceilon and therefore we think it may be incourageing to some free ships or sloops to make a tryall there, althô the uncertainty of procuring any great quantity discourageth us from adventuring upon the charge of one of the Companies ships, It being sufficient to lead others, that we have at our own charge made a full and perfect discovery of yt safe and easy passage to the Spice Islands or South Seas, thrô the Straights of Balleo, which was our principall aim & more than ever was attempted by any of our Predecessors, althô we are well assured, there are two or three more good passages, & good refreshment to be had by the way thrô Straights of [Solor] and Tymore.

Cassia Lignum of Mindanow good.

The preservation, and strengthening of Bencoolen & Chittegam in all respects are two of the most important Concernes for the good of this kingdome that lye under your charge, and therefore we cannot too often recommend them to your care to supply them with all Provisions both alive and dead, and with what Guns & Ammunicon you think they may want, and to send 3 or 4 ffactors and writers to Bencoolen by the first ship out of that abundance you have, and if any you appoint for that purpose refuse to goe, discharge them immediately from our service, and send any hopeful freemen or youths in their stead.

Who refuse to goe to Bencoolen discharge them.

Be constantly carefull of our former Orders to let none of our ships lye idle at Anchor in our road of Madrass, when you are not fully ready to load them, but send them to spend a little time on the West Coast in defence of our fforts there, or to Chittegam for the same purpose, and to bring you up their full loading of timber and provisions, for which write timely to our Agent and Councill in Bengall to be alwayes provided to give any such ships a timely dispatch back to you.

Noe shipps to lye Idle but be sent to West Coast.

We are sending the Mary, Captain Barber a free ship on accot. of the same Owners as this ship the James, to Bencoolen, on [her] we shall send ten Thousand of Bisketts in strong brandy Caskes, ten Hogsheads of fine fflouer, four Tons Brandy, One thousand Deals, Timber, Spars, Balkes &ca. proportionable with Nailes, Locks &ca. for building Houses & Warehouses, but it must be your care to send them Bricks, Guns and Ammunicon if they want any, wch. its impossible for us to know, because we know not wt quantity of the great stores of Ammunicon We designed for Pryaman, Mr. Bloome hath sent away to you.

Stores sent out to Bencoolen.

If the said ship Mary bring a loading of Pepper to ye ffort from Bencoolen, Upon the landing thereof you are to receive our Sea Custome of 5 ℔ Cent in kind according to the law we have made for that purpose, and the Agreement in the James her Charterparty of wch you have Copy; But if the James makes a trip in the Country before she proceed in her China Voyage, & shall deposite any of her Bullion or Goods on shore, merely to lessen ye Adventure, and not to sell, in such case You are to receive noe Custome for the Goods or Mony designed for China so deposited wth you, while the ship makes a tripp for Atcheen, or any other short voyage to spend the time untill the proper season for sailing to China, but if any of her Goods so deposited, be sold, in such case the sea Custome of 5 ℔ Cent is due to us, and you are to receive the same for so much as shalbe so sold.

pepper to pay 5 ℔ Ct. in Spesie.

Our Bengall letter we send open to you that by perusall of it, you may better understand the full scope of our designes and second them by your best advices and endeavours.

That which we promise ourselves in a most especiall manner from our now President and Councill is, that they will establish such a politie of civil and military power & create & secure such a large Revenue to maintain both at that place as may be the foundation of a large well grounded sure English Dominion in India for all time to come.

Mr. Rodrigues & Compa. assures us that their house as they call it at Fort St. George maintain five horses ready at all times to attend our President for honour in Peace, or for Defence in War, We hope the rest of the Jewes & other Forreigners & Natives which enjoy their liberties and properties in perfect security, & the means of encreasing their Fortunes by our expence & charge will be no less forward to every good & publick work & to contribute liberally to all publick charges & accordingly wee would have you respect & countenance them.

Assurance office. We shall say the less here concerning the Office of assurance we resolve to erect at the Fort for the furtherance of your trade & our own Customes, because we shall send by the Defence Mr. Thomas Gray who hath served our Governour many years well instructed in that affair to be our first Register of assurances & youngest of our Council who shall come well furnished with all proper bookes & printed Pollicies for ye beginning & perfecting of that Office from whose good abilities & the nature of our intended establishment, we hope great good may result to the Compa: and the Trade of that place.

We shall send you forty thousand Pounds in Bullion by the new Defence besides Cloth & other goods which We think may be a sufficient stock for those coarse goods we have only writ for, because we resolve none [of] our own Stock sent you out this year shall be sent to the Bay, other [than] what you send for the support & strengthening of the Garrison if we have one there, but if you be so fortunate as to take any considerable purchase from our enemies you may with that or the produce thereof enlarge our investments in Bengall, but our principall dependance for filling up of our great ships which are to return for England is Pepper from the West Coast, which we hope you will make a good Provision of beforehand.

a ffort to be built in Gingee Country. We desire to hear that you have gone through with your purpose & our Order for building a small Fort in the Gingee Countrey, that is a right wise and pollitick designe, & will be a proper meanes to keep alwaies ye King & Court of Gulcondah fair to you & glad to give you content in the matter of St. Thoma: the current passage of your Rupees coined at the Fort, or any thing you shall have occasion to insist upon with them.

We send you herewith copies of the Charterparties of all free ships that we have permitted this year to proceed for India, that you may see how the whole frame of English East India Trade stands, & how carefull we have been to contrive the voyages of these free ships that they shall [not] prejudice the Compa. in their generall trade, nor much prejudice each other by interfering one with another in their trades at the same time & place.

Articles peace wth. all Nations. We send you with this two printed Bookes of his Majestties Ar[ticles of] Peace with all Nations, that you may see on what termes we stand with the Dutch & others, as also Captn. Owen & his Officers Affidavit of the Dutch enticing away our seamen in Bengall, & refuseing to deliver them, that you may not be

Dutch intice or men away. unprovided of the like excuse, in case they should at any time convict you of makeing use & detaining any of their seamen after they have received the Compas. imprest money, which whether it be five shillgs. or five Pounds alters not the case upon their agreement.

Thô we have formerly writ that every Englishman imployed in our sorting shall set his letters to every peece of Cloth by him sorted, & that all sorted by any one man Vizt. Mr: Littleton, Mr. Frazier, or Mr. Alford or Mr. Hatsell shall be

Sorteing cloth. imbaled by themselves to the end we may observe who deals truly by us, yet this is a matter that concernes us so nearly we think fit to inculcate it and require

our chief sorter Mr. Littleton to see this our Order effectually performed, & if Mr. Hatsell be at the Fort, we would have him continued there for that purpose, concluding that one honest supernumerary in that Office can do us no [harm].

We are so resolved to have all our ships bring up the full Tonnage of Rice and Provissions to the Fort from Bengall, which we are to pay them for, that we require you to give us a just compute of the Tonnage that every ship brings you from Bengall, and to tell the Commanders beforehand, that whatever part of their Tonnage they fall short of bringing up to you, we will abate out of their Freight here.

Cotton Yarne to be singly wound.

The Cotton yarn you last sent us was good in its kind, But it comeing wound four or five Threads together is very chargeable & troublesome to the Weavers here, and therefore for the future we would have you give direccon, that the yarn you send may be singly wounded, by which means it will advance Two pence or Three pence ℔ pound more then now it doth.

£ 20 to be deducted out of each souldiers pay.

The Soldiers that come under the Command of Lieutenant Barclay on the Princess of Denmark were furnished at Gravesend by the slop-sellers with shirts and other necessaries to the value of Twenty shillings a man, which you are to deduct out of their pay as it grows due, and give us Credit for the same, when it is reimburst us, we having promised the slopsellers to make it good to them when it is brought to acco^{t}. in our bookes, whereof fail not to give us timely advice.

In case ye. Dutch by [wye] turne us out ye. West Coast to revenge it by any means.

If the Dutch should by any means deprive you of our settlements att Bencoolen or Indrapora (which God forbid) you must never suffer them to remaine quietly with them, as our Ancesters did the Spice Islands, but immediately do your utmost to recover them again by Arms, and if you are not strong enough to do that, take what revenge you can upon their richest ships at Sea, and presently before the Dutch have secured themselves too well, make some new fortificacon at any place you think most convenient upon y^{e}. West Coast of Sumatra, In w^{ch} Coast we yet think Pryaman may be y^{e} best, & y^{t} you may do it upon yo^{r} old Articles made wth y^{e} Orunkyes of y^{t} place, the Dutch having no force there to prevent you, but five or six Dutchmen, and a few sorry black ffellowes y^{t} are not able to resist twenty men, nor willing to resist our Settlement there if they were able, of w^{ch} we had an evident proof w^{n} y^{e} Syam Merch^{ts}. Comp^{a}. landed there, & marched wth. their Armes fix't wthin their Pallazadoes up to y^{e} Chiefs Cajan house. This order we give you not out of any propensity we have to quarrell wth y^{e} Dutch, but merely because We are resolved w^{t}ever y^{e} Consequences may prove never to betray y^{e} interest of o^{r} King & Country by suffering y^{e} Dutch quietly to carry away y^{e} whole Pepper trade (as they have done y^{e} other Spices) either by force or fraud, wthout doing w^{t}ever is in our power to prevent them by Armes or otherwise. So Commending you & our Affairs to the blessing and protection of the Allmighty. Wee remaine.

Your very Loving Friends

Peter Joye	Jos^{a}. Child, Gov^{r}.
John Goodere	Ja: Edwards.
W^{m}. Turner	James Smyth
Tho: Rawlinson	Jos^{a}. Child
George Boun	Edw. Des Bouverie
ffra: Gosfright	John Moore
	Natha: Mountenay
	W^{m}. Sedgwick

GENERAL LETTER TO BENGAL, DATED DECEMBER 12, 1687 AND JANUARY 11, 1688. PER JAMES. [*Public Despatches from England Vol. 8, pp. 225—231.*]

OUR AGENT & COUNCIL
IN BENGALL! LONDON 12th: DECEMBER 1687.

℔ the James.

When we perused yor. Hughly Diary cõmenceing Septembr. 1685. & concluding 30th. Novembr 1686, wherein we observe the manifold insupportable & hainous abuses offered to you by ye Natives of Bengal, to ye robbing us of almost half or stock it provokes us as well to indignacõn as to admiracõn at yor insensible patience, yt you should let them pass with so easy a correccõn after you had them at your mercy in Hughly, & much more, yt you should be yourselves, or suppose us to be, such weak & unthinking men as to venture or Estates again in ye hands of such false & rapacious villains, without a strong Fort at hand to revenge ye injuries they may hereafter doe us; which we are so farr from ever intending, yt we are peremptorily resolved Never to send any of or Estate again into Bengall, until we know you are well setled & fortified in some strong place of or own with an English Garrison: And it is for that purpose principally, yt we have been & are at so vast a charge in sending out so many strong ships last year, & so many soldiers as we have sent this last & this present year, thô we are not without great fear yt your own backwardness & hankering after yor profitable easy old habitacõns, as ye Israelites did after ye Onyons & Garlick of Egypt, may deprive us of ye fruit of all our cost.

[. . .] neglect makeing use of ye advantage had in Hughley noe sekure settlemt. wth. a ffort.

We shalbe glad to hear better News, but if we doe not, we shall reinforce or former design of obtaining some fortified settlemt in Bengall. And therefore you were best keep yorselves in a ready posture for departure upon very short warning, because if you have failed in ye last, We shall never leave it at yor choice again whether or how farr ye warr shalbe prosecuted, Nor at what time or where it shall begin, thô we shall take ye best care we can for yor safeties, if you keep yorselves in such a posture of removal, yt you may obey or sumons in repairing on board or ships in as short a time as ye circumstances of or affairs will then permit us to give you.

To be alwayes ready to depart.

In ye mean time, yt there may be no want of Bengal goods in England, especially of those sorts whereof we have fewest at this time, We have given permission to all or servants & all or free men English, Jewes, & other foreignrs & Natives to send home upon or own ships consigned to ye Compa, any sort of Bengall Goods mencõned in ye list of Bengal goods sent to ye. Fort, & to you by ye Princess of Denmark, the ownrs of ye said Bengal goods being to pay only single freight, & to send their goods upon ye Compas great ships consigned as aforesaid to ye Compa on ye follo terms. Vizt. 12 per Ct. permission, 3½ ℔ Ct. towards ye Compas charge & demorage, 2½ ℔ Ct. for provision of sales in England: The said goods so arriving to be sold by ye candle at ye Compas next genll sale after ye arrival of any ship, & ye nett proceed to be paid to ye Proprietors assigns in London.

℔mission to send home Bengall goods.

Ye. Conditions.

We have likewise for ye ease & encouragemt of any such Adventurers in this permitted trade, erected an office of Assurance at Fort St. George, under ye managemt of or Presidt & Council, wherein any that desire to assure their adventures may have them assured by our said Presidt & Council from India to England upon ye Compas great ships (not being free ships) paying into ye hands of ye Register of or Insurance office 4 or 5 ℔ Ct. Premio from India to England as or Presidt &ca. shall agree, & ye usual fees for assurances paid here, Viz. One Rupee for ye pollicy & one Rupee ℔ Ct. for registring: And in case of a loss, (wch God forbid) ye Compa will pay ye same punctually here, to the assigns of ye respective Adventrs. without abatemt or at ffort St. George, at ye election of ye respective Adventrs And if any responsible persons at ffort St. George will assure any adventurer at a cheaper rate, then ye Compa shall direct their Presidt & Council to assure at, it shalbe lawfull for them so to doe, paying ye. fees for a printed policy as aforesaid & ye duty of Registring; wch fees of Pollicy & Registring, ye Compa reserve to their own

Assurance office.

use, & declare y^t. no Pollicy of Insurance shalbe good or valid in y^e Law at ffort S^t. George, y^t is not so obtained from y^e Comp^as. Register & registred in y^e Comp^as office of Assurance as aforesaid with y^e Registers hand thereunto. [. . .]

Noe Pollicy but the Comp^as.

We look upon y^e 3000 Rupees taken up at Ballasore at 1½ [℔ cent] ℔ mensem, to be a downright cheat put upon us, practised by some of o^r own serv^ts in a wrong name, after y^e old manner of Bengall; and therefore you did very well to allow but one ℔ C^t. ℔ mensem for that money; & we hereby order & enjoyn you never hereafter upon any pretence or necessity whatsoever, to allow above one ℔ C^t ℔ mensem.

3000 Rupees the Intrest over charged.

You did exceeding well in chargeing those bad debts at Dacca, w^ch were occasion'd by M^r. Harvey's gaming to his acco^t; & if you doe justly discharge yo^r duties, we suppose you will find more of that kind both at Dacca & Maulda, he being a man y^t did exceedingly abuse y^r trust & confidence we reposed in him; w^ch confidence of ours in him was singly grounded upon his constant adherence to M^r. Charnock, w^ch we allwaies found to be y^e honester side of those old factions in Bengal: And we will hope, y^t we shall find him yet so honest y^t he will not fail to discharge his trust faithfully concerning any abuses he knows done us either by M^r. Harvey or his successo^rs M^r Pownset, or any other.

bad debts at Dacca truly charged to Mr. Harvy.

M^r. Read as Administrator in trust for his grandson heir to said M^r. Sam: Harvey dēcd: has made demands upon us for 72000 Rupees w^ch he says M^r. Harvey lent us in Maulda, & is entred in those books on y^e credit of Rajah Kam, & more 18600 Rup^s. w^ch you menc̄on in yo^r Diary he lent us at Cassimbuzar in y^e. name of Hervy Kissia Kotna with interest due thereupon at 1 ℔ C^t. ℔ month but upon y^e. former sum̄ of 72000 Rup^s. M^r. Harvy charges 1¼ per month for int^st, w^ch ¼ is an extravagant charge, & we will not allow it, it appearing to be his own money; But y^e two principal sums aforesaid, adding only int^t of one per C^t per month unto the day of M^r Harveys death & no longer, you may carry to y^e. credit of M^r. Read's acc^o bringing y^e same into o^r Cash, & balance y^e acc^o of M^r. Harvey dēcd, by making y^e Deceased's acc^o D^r. for so much as you shall credit M^r. Read by virtue of this order & M^r. Read's lr̄s of Adm^con. M^r. Read being very desirous while his grandson lives fully to administer of y^e goods & Chattels of his dēced son in law, lest if his grandson should dye, he be deprived of y^e benefit of his administrac̄on, for so much of M^r. Harvy's estate as shall not then fully be administered of, w^ch would be such an injury to M^r. Read as we desire not to be y^e causers of. But on y^e other hand, to doe full right to y^e Comp^a before you balance M^r. Harvey's acco^t. by M^r. Read's, you must make M^r. Harvey's acc^o. D^r for whatever you find due to us from his Estate, upon any acco^t whatsoever, because it would be too late to seek o^r remedy for any injury M^r Harvey had done us, after we have carried his balance to M^r. Read's Credit.

M^r. Read Administ^r to Mr. Harvey.

We have already detained in o^r hands of M^r. Harvey's money One thousand pounds to secure us ag^t any demands w^ch may be made upon you by y^e Mother of M^r. Harvy's two natural children, who, M^r Read says, you advise him, were sent to ffort S^t George, & y^t the Mother being a Portuguez Mesteez, no trouble or damage can come upon you or us upon y^t acco^t concerning w^ch. advise us truly & fully by our next ships.

£ 1000 Stopt in Engld. for Acc^o. his Childre

This Indulgence w^ch we have granted for Bengal Goods to be sent home upon o^r. own ships, we have at y^e instance of the Advent^rs. here, declared, it shall continue during y^e whole time of y^e warr with y^e Mogul, & six M^os. after a peace shalbe [concluded] with y^e Mogul & his subjects. And if y^e peace be already made, or shalbe made before y^e arrival of these ships, y^e Indulgence shall notwithstanding continue for six M^os. after the arrival of this Ship; To y^e intent, y^t no private Merch^ts here who send [out money] purposely to be employed in Bengal Goods, should be disappointed of y^e. investm^t of their mony in those cōmodities, in case an [un]expected sudden peace should be made with y^e Mogull.

time of ℔. mission of sending home Bengall goods.

You must seriously consider & lay to heart y^r Comp^a excessive charge for y^e honor of o^r King & Country, & make all y^e possible reprizals you can on y^e Enemy, for our reimbursem^t & y^e maintenance of o^r Forces; the likeliest place for y^e doing whereof effectually, we think is y^e surprizall of Dacca it self, if you

Surpriso Decca.

can contrive such a design with such secrecy y^t the Nabob have no foreknowledge of your purpose.

Wherever you are setled, challenge a large circuit of ground adjacent to y^e place, for o^r own inheritance by right of conquest, as we formerly wrote you, because if ever we can arrive at such a fortified Town in Bengal, as we have at the ffort, we doubt not but if we can defend it four or five years, o^r trade & y^e resort of our own & free ships thither will soon increase it to a Magnificent City, such as Madrass is, w^ch will put a value upon all y^e land within ten miles of it for plantac̃ons, tillage, gardens, retirem^ts. [etc^a] And when ever you make peace you must condition y^t y^e [inheritance] & sovereignty of such a circuit of ground shall remayn to Us & our successors for ever: And y^t all y^e money coyned within our own dominion being of equal weight & fineness with y^e Moguls money, shalbe current in all y^e Moguls Country, at least for what goods & provisions ourselves shall buy in his Country.

Raise Revenue.

Begin to raise revenues for y^e Comp^a at first, y^e same in all respect as are paid y^e Comp^a at ffort S^t. George; And if you can think of any other easy wayes of encreasing o^r Revenue, we shall esteem it accept^ble service: a good Revenue constantly coming in being the only foundation of power.

List Bengall Goods. Sticklack in request.

We send you herewith another copy of o^r Bengal list, [unto] w^ch yo^r selves for y^e Comp^a & o^r serv^ts & all other private Merchants for themselves, are to be strictly confined; We having of saltpetre & all other sorts of Bengal goods (not named in y^e list) enough by us for some years, but yo^r pure transparent Bengal Shellack, and Pegu black sticklack are comodities in very good request, of both w^ch send us what you can procure by means of y^e Dutch, French, Portuguez, Moores, Gentues, Armenians, or other particular friends & acquaintance of yo^r own w^ch are at peace with y^e Mugols subjects, of whom you may make use while o^r warr continues, or buy of them at second hand such goods as they have or shall provide for themselves, allowing them some moderate profit for their serviceableness: but trust not out o^r money beforehand to any of them, because we had rather pay a litle dearer for comodities so procured while y^e warr continues than run y^e hazard of making a new sort of bad Debts.

ffrench Dutch or others ꝑmited to send home goods

And if y^e French, Dutch, or any other rich men in Bengal have a desire to participate of y^e Indulgence we have now granted for y^e bringing home of Bengal goods upon o^r own shipping, you may allow them leave so to doe, upon y^e same terms we have granted to our own servants & free men; and they shall find the same just dealing & performance from us here, of w^ch you may give them assurance.

We are without any advices from India since y^e arrival of the Josia, but in daily expectac̃on of abundance of News from all places, which we hope to have before y^e departure of y^e New Defence Cap^t. Heath, & then you may expect to hear more largely from us. So commend you to the guidance and protection of the Allmighty. We remain.

Your loving Friends

Nat. Mounteney.	Jos^a. Child.	Jos^a. Child, Gov^ernour.
Tho: Rawlinson.	Ja. Edwards.	Benj^n. Bathurst Dep^ty.
James Smith.	Jn^o. Goodere.	Berkeley.
Hen: Tulse.	Peter Joye.	Edw. Des. Bouverie.
W^m. Turner.	John Moore.	George Boun.

The 11^th January 1687-8.

Whereas, the ship Mary whereof Cap^t: Stephen Barbar is Commander, has leave to trade to the West Coast of Sumatra for gaining her Loading of Pepper, and therewith to proceed according to Covenants in Charterparty, It is ordered that in case of a failure or disapointment of Pepper on the said West Coast, It shall be lawfull, for the Owners and Master of the said ship, to bring home her loading in China or South Sea Goods in like manner and on the same termes and Conditions as are granted to the shin James Commanded by Cap^t. Roberts.

Ro: Blackborne, *Sec^ry*.

GENERAL LETTER TO BENCOOLEN, DATED DECEMBER 30, 1687. RECEIVED AUGUST 4, 1688. PER DEFENCE. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 233—235.*]

OUR GOVERNOUR & COUNCILL OF YORK FORT ATT BENCOOLEN. LONDON THE 30TH DECEMBER 1687.

The Invoices and bills of Loadings accompanying this Pacquet will inform you what you are to receive out of this Shipp the Mary, Cpt. Barbar Commander, and by them you will observe the care we have of you, and the esteem we have for that place, and ãt the foot of this letter you may see what soldiers, ffactors and writers we have sent you, and upon what termes the Factors and Writers are entertain'd, the boyes are sent so young that they might the sooner and perfecter attain the Languages of that Countery. The termes upon wch. this shipp proceeds you will understand by a coppye of the Chrẽparty sent you herewith, and because we hartelye wish all permitted free shipps may thrive upon the allowed honest undertakins, we would have you give the Commander yor. utmost assistance for procuring his loading either at Bencoolen or Indrapora, and if we be in stock spare him some part of any Pepper you have bye you provided for ourselves, if you find you can doe it withought prejudice or delay to the Loading of any of our own shipps that may be with you when this shipp arrives, or wch. you may reasonable expect in a short tyme after the Commr. paying you ready money for it at such a rate as you may be Confident we shall be noe loosers by it. ℔ Shipp Defence

The liberty we give you in the foregoing parragraph may be abused to our detriment if you be not so wise conscientious & circumspect as alwayes to provide and foresee that noe Indulgence of this kind shall turn to the Compas. damage, and alwayes to take care that the Compa. business be first dispatch'd and that their own freighted shipps (being not free shipps) be first loaden, unto wch. we doe absolutly enjoyn you.

Cpt. Barbar has promised us, that himself, all his Carpenters and as many of his shipps Company as can possible be spared from the shipp shall be constantly assistant to you in getting up drye Lodgings for your soldiers, and in enlarging & strengthening your ffortifications, In wch. let not a moments time be lost nor any cost spared, not knowing how soon the Dutch themselves or the Javas or other Natives by their procurement may fall upon you, and if any thing will prevent that, its only being in such a strong posture of Defence, and so well stord wth. all sorts of provitions that you may be able to make a long and stout resistance for the Honr. of yr. King & Countrey: Be prudently frugall of the provisions we have now and formerly sent you or what shall come to you hereafter from Bombay, Madrass or Bengall, and take especiall care not only of the regular expence of them, but to see that our soldiers make us due satisfaction Constantly for what they have out of their Monthly payes.

Especially be very carefull of the increase of your live cattle & hoggs Goats sheep &ca. that you may (with God's blessing) in a short time abound wth. fresh provitions, wch. will exceedingly tend to the preservation of yor. healths, and to make the place desireable by the Chineses and others to inhabit with you in that good land. It is very long since we had any intelligence from you or from any other parts of India, but we are daily in expectation of Letters as well overland as by our shipping, wch. when they arrive if we see cause we shall ℔mitt some other free shipp or send a shipp of our own to saill hence about Aprill or May next to vissit your Coast.

Altho' our principall and first care be for the strenghning and securing Bencoolen against any force ye. Dutch can spare to bring against it, yet we would not neglect Indrapoora, it being a great place of Concernment to our pepper Investment, and therefore we would have you not to faill of supplying our Governr. and Councill there with whatever you can spare for the preservation of their healths or increase of their strength, and frequently to importune them to be adding all necessary ffortifvcations and Conveniencies to what they have

already, and to keep their ordnance, small armes and all sorts of amunition well fixt and in good order always fitt for service.

Althô we know new forts and Collonies are not a very fit subject to raise any Considerable revenue out of it at first, yet we would have you begin something of that kind in such reasonable manner that may not deter any new Inhabitants from resorting to you and lovingly to continue w^th^. you, in the meantime, improve all the occasions you have to understand perfectly y^e^. manẽr of y^e^. Dutch Government at Pedang and Pollicinco and all the methods by which they raise mony for y^e^ support of those Garrisons, in w^ch^. we would have you imitate them in the manner, but not in that excess of measure they Collect their Taxes, neither all at once, but by easy steps and gentle degrees, so as to put noe discouragement upon the grouth & Increase, of that place in old or new inhabitants: but alienate none of the ground or soyl belonging to the Comp^a^. to perpetuity, but only upon leases for lives or years upon moderate Rent reserved to y^e^. Comp^a^. & registred in a booke for that purpose. Be always buying and receving in what Pepper you can that the natives may feel the benefit of yo^r^. settlement w^th^. them, and the shipps that Come upon your Coast from Fort S^t^. George may meet w^th^. a speedy dispatch and never spend above two Months time upon that Coast, w^ch^. will preserve our seamens healths and bring them into a better likeing of those voyages, & you need not fear wanting shipps at all Convenient time upon your Coasts since we have now permitted not only our Servants, but all our freemen in India to trade in Pepper paying ½ peny per pound for what they load upon that Coast to sell in China or any part of India & one penny ℔ pound for every pound of Pepper they send home to England for their own accounts upon our shipps towards the charge of our settlements and Garrissons, consigning all the Pepper and other goods now indulged which they send home upon any shipps unto the Comp^a^: here.

The former ½ peny ℔ pound for what pepper is sent to any places in India, you are to Collect there and bring it to our Cr^dt^. in Cash posting it off to the Cr^dt^. of your acco^t^. and Garrisson Charges, and if there shall [be] any pepper loaden at any place upon that Coast whereof the ½ penny ℔ pound for permission is not paid into our cash either at yo^r^. place or Indrapoora give notice therof, and of the persons so transgressing this our necessary Order to Fort S^t^. George and to us, and we shall find means not only to recover our right of them, but to Punish them for their such injurious delinquency.

And since we have now opened those Trades to all our freemen fail not to Collect exactly our sea Custome upon all goods that shall come to yo^r^. place or to Indrapoora w^ch^. we will by no means dispense with, not so much as at the first commencement of this indulged free trade And accordingly you are to begin to take our five ℔ C^t^. Sea Custome from Cp^t^. Barbar for whatever Comodityes he makes sale of at that place & also one Doll^r^. for Anchorage and one barrell of Powder for Fort Charges, and if he or any other refuse to Comply w^th^. these our just demands towards the Comp^as^. great charge in those places You need not trouble yo^r^self to quarrell or contest much w^th^ him or any other about these matters, but be sure to give us notice in what Comodityes or to what vallue little more or less he or any other traded for there, and we shall take care to satisfye ourselves before wee adjust accounts with them here, it being a madness to think that ever we can make these Garrisons and ffortifycations so strong as we design, and support the growing charge of them without a full and Constant revenue answerable to so great an expence.

These orders w^ch^. we give you we intend shall be observ'd in y^e^ same manner at Indrapoora & you are accordingly to Communicate them to the Govern^r^: and Councill there and require their dutifull Conformity thereunto they being under your imediate direction tho' under the Generall Regency of Fort S^t^. George.

Here take Passage on this shipp tho Mary M^r^. Robert Burnett Chirurgeon w^th^. a mate and 11 soldiers, we have made the Chirurgeon Ensign of the Foote Company with you, as you will see by his Comission. There also Comes M^r^. John Brooke whome we have entertain'd to serve us for 5 years as writer at ten pounds ℔. ann., and two hospitall youths Viz^t^. Roger Phillips and John

Thistlewaite as writers for 7 years at 5 pounds ℔ ann., their salleries to be paid them from their arrivall, we are

Yo[r]: Loving Friends.

James Smyth	Jas. Edwards	Josia Child, Governour
Hen: Tulse	Ri. Hutchinson	Benj[n]. Bathurst, Dep[ty].
W[m]. Turner	Hen. Johnson	Berkeley
W[m]. Sedgwicke	John Moore	Edw. Des. Bouverie
	Tho. Rawlinson	John Creed.

General letter to Fort S[t]. George, dated January 25, 1688. Per Defence.
[*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 237—263.*]

London the 25[th] January, 1687–88.

Our Generall of India &
President & Council
of Fort S[t]. George.

With this you have copyes of all Wee writ you by the Princess of Denmark and by the James with Bills of Loading and Invoices of all [wee] have consigned to you by this ship.

2. Our Europe Goods being not so many as formerly, we hope you may truck them off to the more proffit, or at least you may buy those few [India] goods we have writ for on the better terms, because your black Merchants this year will receive a greater proportion of their payment in money th[an] formerly, if you do not crowd upon them your own goods to the Company's prejudice, which we hope you will not be guilty of hereafter.

3. We have allready given you our possitive order to dissolve Metchlepatam Factory, which we conclude is done, and we see no reason why you should not dissolve our Factory at Pettipolee, & two of the three Factories in the Gingee Countrey, & keep only that one of them which you shall bee permitted to turn into a Fort, & which in your experiences is best for that purpose. Orders for dissolving Metchlepm. and Pettipollee Factory.

4. Consider deliberately on these proposed Retrenchments and a[ct] therein immediately what you shall judge most for the Comp[as]. advantage without lingering on such eating needless expences upon the Comp[as]. stock. Needless expences to be consider'd

5. Wee now send you all proper Bookes for Assurances with a sufficient number of printed Policies, and after mature deliberation have resolved that all assurers shall pay ¼ of a Pago[d]. for a Policy & ¼ of a Pag[o]. ℔ Ceñt: for Registering, & the like proportion for all other sorts or species of money, be it Pounds Sterl[s], Rupees or whatsoever other kind And We do appoint that M[r]. Thomas Gray who comes to you by this ship be Register of Assurances, & keep the acco[t]. of the Comp[as]. Revenue ariseing thereby under the controul of our President & Council, & that he do quarterly acco[t]. and pay the Ballance of his collection into our Cash, and wee appoint him last of your Council, and his salary to be twenty Pounds ℔ Annum, and we shall hereafter for his better incouragement appoint him some certaine proportion at our discretion of the Fees he shall collect for Pollicies & Registering, when we see what they may annually amount unto. Books of Assurances sent out Assurrs. to pay ¼£ for a Pollicy & ¼ P. ℔ Ct. for registring. Mr. Tho: Gray to be register of Assurances. Part sallary.

6. To set the wheels a going, we are content and do hereby impower you to write by way of assureing £ 5,000, adventure from India to England upon any of our three decked ships at the præmio of 5 ℔ C[t]. if you apprehend no extraordinary danger, but the subscription to be made by [our] Register of Assurances for the time being at the Comp[as]. risgo & by order first entered in your Councill Bookes, but our Register is not to subscribe any Policy at the Comp[as]. hazard untill the præmio be first agreed in Council and the order of the Council for so doing delivered him under your Secretaries hand, neither is he to subscribe any Policy of Assurance to any adventurer untill the præmio be first paid into our Cash, and that he has a Certificate thereof from the under Cashire; These are our Limitations which you are not to alter or go from, upon any pretence [. . .] insure at ye præmio 5 ℔ Ct. [. . .] upon 3 deck'd ships. Agree in Council.

whatsoever either in takeing less then we have appointed, or writeing more adventure upon any one ship then five thousand Pounds as aforesaid, neither are you to write upon any other ship or Voyage for our acco^{ts}. & risgo then our three Decked ships homeward bound, but if you are desired to assure any adventure upon our said three decked ships homeward in a time of greater danger or hazard then at present appears, you are in such case to demand such great præmio as the extraordinary danger in your judgment shall deserve, the like we say as to our said three decked ships that by reason of age or being long abroad, shall be thought more [weak or] crasy then our 3 deckt ships commonly are homeward bound, in which later cases 'tis impossible for us to give certain rule, but you must conscienciously act & do for us as you would for yourselves in the same ca[ses].

ffree shipps Lycenced to Lode Pepper at West Coast.

7. You will observe by the Charter-party of many of our free [ships] particularly the Dorothy Capt^{n}. Thwaites that we have given the Comand^{r}. & Owners licence to load their ship with Pepper at any Ports & places [in] India, not excluding the West Coast of Sumatra, for the acco^{t}. of their respective Owners, on the following termes viz^{t}. That all goods on board the said ship shall be consigned to the Comp^{a}. by Invoice & [Bill] of Loading for the acco^{t}. of their respective Owners, and that the Company will make sale thereof by their candle at the next generall sale, & pay the full nett proceed to the proprietors, deducting only one Peny ℔ [Pound] here in England towards the Comp^{as}. charge of Garrisons & other generall charges, & now that yourselves or others of our free Merchants may participate of the same Indulgence, when you think it for yo^{r} advantage, we give you leave to send home upon any of the Comp^{as}. 3 deckt ships consigned to the Comp^{a}. any quantity of Pepper on the foregoing termes, you not leaveing out any of the Comp^{as} proper goods to make room for your own, & we farther now thinke fit to give you leave to trade to any of our Garrisons on the West Coast in your own Countrey ships [or] Vessells, on these termes following viz^{t}. 1st. To pay us our Port charge of Anchorage & Powder where ever we have a Garrison. 2^{dly}. To pay us our Custome of five ℔ C^{t}. for all Pepper or other goods you bring to Fort S^{t}. George, & to Pay us a halfe Peny ℔ Pound for all Pepper you carry to China or other places from the West Coast towards y^{e} charge of our Garrisons there (as the Owners of the shipp James & others are to pay us) all which Dutys being faithfully paid & accounted to us, you may very rationally compute will not in 40. years time compensate for that charge we have allready been at, & shall be within a years time to settle & secure those Garrisons, which we the more demonstratively hint to you, that you may be satisfyed in the reasonableness & necessity of our constitutions, and be the readier to answer all gainsayers of y^{e} publick good of their Countrey, and the more carefull & studious among yourselves to provide, that all the said Dutys be duely accounted to us, & to turne out any ungratefull knave that you shall find attempting to deceive us of any part of them.

½ Penny ℔ ℔ pepper duty.

8. Thô we designe no war upon the King of Gulcondah, nor any other Prince or Nation on your side of India, at least not untill our affairs are well resettled with the Mogull & King of Siam, yet you should be allwaies so wise as the Dutch, in keeping a constant acco^{t}. of all injuries wrongs & losses sustained by the Comp^{a}. through y^{e} oppression of the said King of Gulcondah or his former Ministers Ackana, Madina, Lingapa, & others, to the intent that if any difference should in time to come happen between us concerning S^{t}. Thoma, or any other matter we may be the better prepared to demand our just reparation, such acco^{ts}. the wise Dutch fail not to keep constantly with all Princes & people in India with whom they have to do, & sometimes for twenty years together, & after many years produce them under a prosperous conjunction of their own affairs, or when such Prince their Debtor is incumbred with or distressed by some other Warr, & then take that season very pollitickly to force their satisfaction for past injuries with some enlargement of their priviledges for the future, of which their prudence you lately saw a most successfull instance in their well accomplished action at Metchlepatam, which (if it be true that the King & Ministers of Gulcondah had

S^{t}. Thoma.

Dutch Pollicy.

wronged them as they alledge) was just as to him, thô they were very unjust in forbidding us the Trade of that place.

9. We send you with this (thô it be long since the fact was committed) the Dutch relation of the manner of their conquest of Maccassar, that you may observe with how few forces of their own, with the help of Buggesses, they accomplished that great exploit, & learne from them how to serve your Countrey by the aid of the Natives if you have the like occasion in Bengall to prosecute that war with the aid of the Raccaners or the Jamwars that are at enmity with the Nabob, we likewise send you one of their Consultation Bookes of as late a date by which you will see how wisely they at Battavia provided to defend themselves, & offend their enemies, when the War of England & France broke out upon them at the same time; reading & meditation are the only meanes to stock yourselves with wise thoughts before such events happen, & to be ready to turne to proper expedients when they do. And if ever the Dutch should force you to a war, we hope you will not forget that abundance of their small Forts would be an easy prey to 2. or 3. of your free ships, because in a time of war they must of necessity draine all their small Forts of men, & those few left behind will willingly enter into your service upon incouragement. Manner of Dutch takeing Maccasser.

10. You will observe likewise by the said Consultation Booke that they farme out the Exise of Corne at their mills, the Sago grounds, herb market, & so they do allmost of every thing else that can bee named or thought on. Manner of their Creating Revenue.

11. We send you with this copy of our generall Letter to Bencoolen by the Mary, which will fully acquaint you with our thoughts and intentions in reference to those settlements on the West Coast, by which you may governe yourselves to give your orders to our Factories there conformable to our own orders, & further what in you lies, all [our] purposes relateing to those two places Bencoolen & Indrapoora, the rather because we have too just grounds to suspect the Dutch will deprive us of them if they can, right or wrong, but we would not have you let either of them go undefended for want of supplies, nor without immediate revenge if the Dutch use any force in removeing of us, and if it come to a war make the best you can of it, we would rather run the hazard of that, then to be robbed of all we have by peice meals in a time of full Peace, but we will not be the first agressors. posture of defence.

12. If you frame any designe among yourselves or free Merchants for Mindano or any other place in the East or South Seas, we shall give M^r^. Cheney leave to go upon it, & still retain his degree & place in Council, he having the Malay & Javah Languages. Mindanao trade.

13. Those Languages you will have more use of hereafter, if the Dutch should force us to a war, & therefore you may do well to cherish all those that come to inhabit among you that are perfect in them. Encourage those that speake Mallay, etc.

14. Condemn & execute by Martiall Lawes all such traiterous Englishmen as you shall take sailing in the King of Siams Junks or otherwise corresponding with the Siamers, while they are enemies to our Soveraign Lord the King & the Comp^a^. according to the injunction of his Majesties Proclamation sent you last year. Martiall Law.

15. In what package the sword & Mace to be carryed before our Generall & President, & the Silver Oar to be carryed before the chief Judge of the Admiralty, & the two City Maces to be carryed before the Mayor, & Medall for Capt^n^. Arthburnet are you will find at the foot of our Invoice in a large wooden chest being marked I.R. Sword & Mace.

16. We enjoyn you to favour & countenance our now established Corporation, & assist them to get into their method and order as soon as possibly may be, & if you find the number of Justices appointed by our Charter be too few for that populous City, you may make as many more as you think necessary by particular Commission. To assist ye Corporation If necessary create more Justices.

All persons allowed to plead their owne cases.

17. We would have all persons be allowed to plead their own causes before any of our Courts of Judicature if they desire it, or at their election to make use of some allowed Attorney to plead for them, but no Attorney shall be ℔mitted to plead for any person untill he be first allowed to be an authentick Attorney by order of Council in writeing, & no Attorney shall have that allowance from you till he has paid 5 Pag^{s}: into the Comp^{as}. Cash for suoh his allowance to officiate as an Attorny (*Quamdiu se bene gesserit*) and you are to appoint what moderate fees they may take of their Clients, & what punishment shall be inflicted, in case any of them should ask or receive more then their allowed fees, and for Paupers the Judge is to appoint some Attorney to appear and plead gratis, as S^{r}. Jn^{o}. Biggs knows the manner is here in England, but what Degree of Estate shall be accounted Pauper with you at Madrass, you must resolve among yourselves, a man that swears he is not worth five Pounds is esteemed a Pauper in England, but it may be two Pag^{s}. is as good a poor mans estate at Madrass at 5 £ is here.

Authorised Attourney to pay 5 ps.

Pauper.

Capt. Heath of Councel & Capt. Haddock both & all other to pay Custome.

18. Capt^{n}. Heath we appoint to be of your Council dureing his ships stay at Fort S^{t}. George, and in the same Degree that we appointed Capt^{n}. Haddock the Senior Capt^{n}. to take place of the other according to the usuall custome, but we intend not to make this a familiar practice hereafter, the said Capt^{n}. Heath has promised us to follow Capt^{n}. Haddock's good example in the due payment of our five ℔ C^{t}. Sea Custome for Wines & all other goods which he sells at Fort S^{t}. George, & we require you to make all others do the like, or else forfeit their goods, one halfe to the Comp^{a}. & one halfe to the Informer, & this we say possitively not only for goods that shall be actually seized for not having paid the Custome, but also for all goods that shall be proved by information in our Court of Admiralty to have been landed at S^{t}. Thoma or at any place near Madrass, or which any other way escaped paying us our Custome although the goods were never seized, and we strictly enjoyne you to turn out of our service any person that you shall finde attempting to avoid this our order, or somuch as muttering against such a just reasonable imposition.

whether landed here or any other place.

booke of rates to be made.

19. And because by reason of the multiplicity of trade & diversity of Commodities it may grow troublesome to receive our five ℔ C^{t}. Custome in kind, we require our Commissioners of our Custome or Choultry to prepare a Terrafe or Booke of rates of all commodities usually imported, or exported to Madrass, to be approved of by our President & Councill, & according to the valuation therein to leavie our Custome of five ℔ cen^{t}. in ready mony to be paid upon the entrey of the said goods at our Custome house, before the said goods are shipt or landed, as the manner is in England, & by the next send us a transcript of your said Terrafe or Booke of rates for our perusall and approbation.

20. To prevent concealment of goods, & the defrauding us of our Customes, we have sent you the contents of Captain Haddocks & Captain Heaths & the James ships taken out of our Custome house here, & intend to do the like for all ships hereafter.

Burgesses.

21. We have named as many Burgesses as we could readily think of, the rest you may add, to the number of 120, but we would not exceed that number, if there be anything you would have added to our new Charter let S^{r}. John Biggs draw a supplymentall Charter, & send us the draught, upon consideration whereof we shall add what we thinke further necessary, by some new Charter, his Majestie approveing thereof, as he has been pleased to approve of this, upon debate of it in his Cabinet Council.

Mr. Rodrigues to be respected as Bennefactr. of ye. Corporation.

22. M^{r}. Rodriguez has obliged us by his forwardness to disburse the money for your Corporation Maces, pray desire our Mayor & Aldermen to contrive a way to reimburse him, as soon as may be, and let his friends with you have the respect of Benefactors for the publick good of the place.

Grounnd rents to [be] collected.

23. One reason among others for our sending you such a large supply of souldiers is, that you may coerce the payment of all arrears of our ground rents, & all forfeitures incurred by default, & if there be any under your Presidency

that shall plott and contrive mutinies, treasons, or rebellions, we require you to proceed against them by a Court Martiall and execute the Ringleaders without mercy, of what Nation quality or condition soever they be, & let this work be immediately gone through with while Cap^{t}. Heath is upon the place.

24. We could never have any quietness or be obeyed at S^{t}. Helena, till we made such examples of some of the principall planters, neither will you^{r}. M^{r}. Wavell we know is able to keep our Register of ground Rents, & we will for his encouragement in collecting them, and our Fines upon deaths or alienations, allow him a certaine proportion over and above his sallary, when we see what they annually amount to, in the mean time you may pay him presently out of the first Rents collected by him forty Pagodos, but we know nothing will go on roundly and evenly (as it ought) except our President himselfe do heartily put life into it, & therefore wee do principally rely upon him, not doubting but all the rest of our Council, and all our Forces by Sea & Land will stick to him, to make that place a perfect sovereign Regency under his Maj^{tie} and us, as Battavia is under the States, & the Dutch Company.

Mr. Wavell to undertake it.

40 pd. Gratuity.

25. On perusall of Cuddalore & Porto Novo Diaries we observe y^{e} black Merchants are made a property off, to complaine that M^{r}. Cawley grosly abused them, & therefore they would not stand to their contract, afterwards the Merchants are pacified, & another sent in his roome, an old cheating trick, which certainly you could not but apprehend, for 'its never to be expected the black Merchants will speak well of any man that sticks to the Comp^{as}. interest; & a very easie thing it is for any knavish cheating Chief that receives bribes of the black Merchants to get them to complaine of the honestest sorter that ever the Comp^{a}. imployed, & you could not have done a better service to the Comp^{a}. then in discovering the root of that accusation, & turning the secret author of it out of our service.

Cuddalore Merch^{t}. complaint against Mr. Cawley false.

26. Wee have sent you one hundred & fifty Chaldron of Coles by Captain Heath, which we would have you keep in a convenient Magazine safely lockt up from any kind of wast or imbezelment, against a time of need, & for the same purpose for which we have obliged you to be allwaies fully stored with Rice, with this difference, that Rice being a perishable commodity, you must of necessity be allwaies selling off our oldest stores, as you are supplying your selves with new, but Coles being not perishable you may keep them untill a time of seige, or the like extremity, but in case any of our Captains homeward bound should importune you for small quantities, you may in such case spare a Chaldron or two to a ship at seaven Pag^{o}. ℔ Chaldron, less we will not take, nor can afford them so, they costing us here with charges, near thirty shillings ℔ Chaldron & we could have six Pounds ℔ Ton Freight, for so many Tons as we have Chaldrons of Coles in Captain Heath's ship.

150 Chaldron Coales to be secured against occatio

Rice fo store.

may spare one or 2 Chaldron at 7 p^{s}. per chaldron.

27. Upon perusall of your Diary we observe on the choice of a new Ruby Broker you tasherif him at our charge, which we do not understand, not knowing how we are obliged to him, you may do well to give us the reason of your so doing, & be more carefull of expending our money, especially at a time you see us engaged in such a profound charge for the publick good of the Kingdome.

dissapprove Tasherif to Ruby Broker.

28. Put the charge of the Sloop Thomas's expedition to Metchlepatam, with the thirty souldiers & all other expences & losses of that kind, to the King of Siams acco^{t}. against a day of reckoning.

Sloope Thomas etc. to be put to King Syames Accot.

29. Make the Capt^{n}. of the Rochester sloop pay for the Pepper that was stolen, & if he refuses to do it, instantly put him not only out of command, but cause our Attorney to sue him in a Court of Admiralty, & make him pay the cost & charges.

Mr. of Rochester sloope to pay for stolen pepper.

30. In your new Consultation Booke the 13th May 1686 we observe you are very easily induced to continue Pettepolee Factory, as if you had no sense, or very little, of that needless extravagant charge, which forces us to be so possitive in all our Orders, least you should take any advantage to avoid our Orders or continue

dissapprove ye. continuance of Pettepole.

possitive orders to wthdraw.

needless expences upon us, we do therefore absolutely & particularly enjoyne you to dissolve that Factory forthwith, as well as Metchlepatam, Madapollam alone being sufficient for our business on that Coast, & it is not so far from Pettepolee, but that the black Merchants there may carry their Cloth to Madapollam.

20 pags. given Italian Padree not approved.

31. The 14th June 1686 you gave twenty Pago. to an Italian Padre out of the Compas. money, which was an injurious presumption, & more then the Govern[r]. & all the Committees will presume to do, Charity is a commendable vertue when we give that which is our own, but when we give that which is none of our own it approaches near to robbery, the Adventurers stock was intrusted with us to trade with, not to give away to Charitable uses, as Governrs. of Hospitalls may & ought to do, being intrusted for that purpose, we have many such objects of Charity presented to us, but wee allwaies tell the parties we can dispose of no part of the Compas. stock honestly for such purposes; thô we do often give out of our own purses more or less liberally, as God shall incline each of us, We have likewise a Poors stock intrusted with us, which is appropriated only to such as become poor by or in the Compas. service, & we think ourselves obliged not to alienate that to any other purpose, & therefore we have caused the twenty Pago : aforesaid to be brought to President Gyfford's accot. without whose consent that money could not have been paid, or misapplied, & we require you never hereafter to part with any of the Compas. stock upon any pretence of Charity.

Presidt. Gyfford to be charged therewth.

99½ drs. pd. Mr. Tho : Yale.

32. Neither are we well satisfied with the reasons you give us for your paying 99½ Dollers to Mr. Thomas Yale on his pretences, without sending us the particulars, since Mr. Strang had money enough, & was a proper person to disburse money for the Compa. in that voyage, wherefore we would have you send us the particulars, & the vouchers you had for paying that summe, that we may the better judge of it, & see whether it was not paid by Mr. Strang.

Send ye. reasons for soe doeing.

blamed for not imprisoning Du Jardin or getting security.

33. July the 26th your forbearance of Du Jardins debt at a time you pretended want of money, was a great injury to us, & a failer of discipline, you should have committed him forthwith to prison till he had paid it, or found security to pay it with interest of that Countrey from the time it was due.

punishmt. of Page approved off.

34. You did exceeding well in punishing George Page Augst. the 4th. but your punishment was too gentle for the offence.

approve of ye. Rice given ye. Poore in ye ffamine.

35. Notwithstanding what we have said before against misapplying the Compas. stock for charitable uses, we are not offended with the boyled Rice you gave those calamitous poor in that extream famine, which was such an extraordinary case that it pleads its own excuse.

blamed for entrusting black Merchts.

36. September 20th. you seem to us to be overforward in advanceing twelve thousand Pago. to the black Merchants at the Fort at a time when you say we wanted money, & it appears we owed them nothing, & they were not so poor as to press so hard upon you.

noe passengers to goe home upon or. shipps.

untill have pd. 26 pas. & they to pay their owne passage.

37. Septemr. 27th. & at other times afterwards you gave leave to some Spaniards & others to take their passages home upon our ships, paying as you say for their own passages, & to some you gave the Captains orders to receive them on the Compas. accot. the last method whereof has brought us to this possitive resolution, & we do accordingly enjoyne you at no time hereafter upon any pretence whatsoever to give license to the Commanders of any ship to bring home for Europe any Passenger, man, women, or child, before such Passenger or Passengers respectively, or some other for them has paid into our Cash for permission twenty six Pago. for each Passenger, on payment whereof our President is to give the party a receipt for the said twenty six Pago. for Permission to go home upon our ships, but the Parties are to pay for their own passages, out of this generall rule we do not except our President himselfe, nor any of our Council, Factors, writers, freemen, nor any other person or persons whatsoever, & that all your Orders to the Captains in any such case hereafter shall be penned in no other stile, & with no other words then for the party to pay his own passage at the Compas. rate of eight Pounds ℔ head for sea provisions.

Eight £ each

38. If by this generall rule aforesaid any person should finde himself agrieved upon an apprehension, that by Covenant the Company is obliged to pay their passage home; let such persons that think themselves so agreived bring their receipt home with them, & we will do them right here, but we will be judges thereof ourselves, & if any thing be done contrary to this order, we will expect our satisfaction from the President himselfe, without whose hand to the Permission note no Commander can bring over any Passenger without incurring the penalty of his Charterparty.

if any aggreived.
shall be righted at home.
noe comdr. to bring home passenger wh. out a pmission note.

39. As to Seamen & private Souldiers desireing to return home, we say the former any Comander will be glad to take in, & give them wages, as well as victualls for their assistance, & for the latter viz^{t}. Souldiers we have reason to believe none of the Commanders of our returning ships will refuse to give them their victualls for their help on board, when it may be presumed they want of the number of their ships Comp^{a}., but if any of our Commanders should be so perverse & obstinate as to refuse such returneing Souldiers victualls for their help, we will pay for their passages ourselves, & not only mark such refractory ungratefull Captains with a black Cole, but find meanes otherwise to right ourselves out of the want of the number of their Sailors.

Souldiers & Seamen.
ye Comdr. will victuall for their worke.
if not send word wt. Comandr. refuse it.

40. October the 21st. it seemes incredible to us that the Widdow Clarke should be so long unpaid for the hovell pulled down for the building of Caldera point in S^{r}. W^{m}. Langhorne's time, doubtless some satisfaction was made her husband formerly if any thing was due, pray be carefull hereafter not to take such easie pretences to pay away our money untill you are assured of the parties right.

unlikely ye widdow Clarke was not before satisfied.

41. December the 2^{d}. 1686 We very well approve of your settling a Pepper trade upon Keela[1] Cary if you can effect it, & would have you cultivate that and all other Pepper trades to the uttmost of your power.

settlemt. at Keela Cary approved off.

42. We approve of the Fort you have built on the river side, and should be glad to hear your black Towne was fortifyed round, in the manner we formerly advised you, our purpose being to make that place very secure & formidable, if your inhabitants were but wise enough to cooperate, as they ought to do for the safety of themselves and their posterities.

ye. ffort on River side approved off.

43. Your fineing M^{r}. Gray & M^{r}. Cawly to the use of the poor of the Church, was an irregular and ridiculous action, all Fines for Batteries, assaults, breaches of the Peace, Trespasses, misdemeanour, & high misdemeanour being only due to the Comp^{a}., as they are here in England to our Sovereign Lord the King, and in particular Jurisdictions to the Lords of the respective mannors, we hope you will commit no more of these absurdities hereafter, & that now you have a more judicious advizer of S^{r}: John Biggs, we shall find the Fees of our Court & Fines make some tollerable addition to our generall Revenue of that place.

ffineing Mr. Gray & Cawley to y^{e} use of Church dissaproved off.
all fines due to Compay.

44. Your allowing Captain Kempthorne three Barrells of Powder upon pretence of salutes at Atcheen was a very preposterous thing to be done there, especially out of so looseing a voyage, which gives us the trouble of satisfying ourselves here with the more difficulty, for the future we require you never upon any pretence whatsoever to give or deliver any Powder, or make any allowance for Powder to the Commander of any Freighted ship, without takeing the Commanders receipt for somuch borrowed, & leave the determination to us here, where the Charter-party is made, whither we will give it them or not.

Powdr. to be allowed [. . .]

45. You must understand that all our Orders in India have the force of Lawes, and ought by all Persons under your Government, as well as by yourselves to be obeyed as the Muncipall Lawes of that place, and to the Intent you may at any time easily have recourse to them, we doe appoint three of you: viz^{t}. M^{r}. Higginson, M^{r}. Wavell, and M^{r}. Thomas Gray to make a collection out of all our last seaven years generall Letters of all the Orders and directions Wee have

Ordrs. & Lawes of equall fforce in India.

[1] This refers to the port in the present district of Ramnad bearing the name Keelakarai or Kil Kara.

Collection of all ordrs. be drawne up.

given you concerning generall matters, unto the close of this Letter, and that all such rules and orders so collected bee inserted into a Booke for that purpose ready in your Councill Chamber, in the charge of your Secretary, to have recourse [to] upon any occasion, and being so perfected, we shall [expect] from the said Persons a copy of the said Booke to be sent us as a Specimen of their care and Industry in this affair, and it must be our Presidents peculiar Province, after the said Collection is made, to hold your Secretary to the punctuall carrying on of the said Booke, and incerting therein all future Orders which you shall receive from us.

Capn. Battens Error.

Captain Battens fireing sharp at the French ship was a great abuse of his Majesties Commission, his Majestie not pretending to the Dominion of all Seas, but only of the Brittish Seas, wherefore if any complaint come, you must compell Captain Batten to make the French Commander satisfaction, and to acknowledge his mistake, and take care to instruct all Commanders better.

Padda Naigue.

Wee have read over S^r^. Thomas Chambers his Cowl to the Pada Naigue, in which it seemes to us that the Duties allowed him to receive are very great, considering how the Inhabitants of your place, and consequently the Provisions comeing thither, and therefore wee would desire you for the encrease of our Revenue to farm out that office to the Person that has officiated it already, or any other that will give most for it, obliging him what number of Peons to keep and what service to ℔form, which We suppose you may sufficiently doe & procure, notwithstanding the rent of 3. 4. or 500 Pag^s^. ℔ Ann to the Comp^a^. casting away the Preposterous distinction between Christians and the Natives, which is and will ever be a meer Cheat to the Comp^a^. while it is continued, & therefore Wee enjoyn you without more Capitulation to compell all Persons within our City of Madrasse or Town of Fort S^t^. George, to pay just alike in all our duties, And that to make the most of our respective farms, you farm not out any Duty for above one year, and that you doe appoint a day in each year to let out all y^e^ Comp^es^. farmes in a Publick way by the Box, with sealed Papers, or else by the Candle, and sufficient Publick notice be given to all Persons in Convenient time beforehand when you will [set] as a Council to receive propositions in sealed Papers (of which Method M^r^. Higginson knowes the way in the Navy office) to any Persons y^t^ will give most for them because We know if We be rightly dealt with our farms must rise as our City encreaseth.

Licences to low rated.

Your licences for retailing of liquors & Tobacco are likewise very much too low, scarce the fiftieth Part of what the Dutch Comp^a^. receives for the like Lincences at the Cape & at Battavia, you may easily double that revenue without scaring one man from the Place, whatever has been ignorantly or worse Pretended to the Contrary, and your own ingenuity may Prompt you to many other easy inoffensive wayes of augmenting the Comp^as^. revenue if you will bestow the Pains of thinking, & not so wholly attend your own Affaires as to make only a Parenthesis of y^e^ Comp^as^. Business.

measureing Shipps & vessels well approved off.

The Terriffe you have made in your Consultation book for the measure of all ships and Boats paying Port Charges [is] discretely done, and We do well approve thereof but you [Come up] so heavily [and so late in all such necessary] & publick good things for the Preservation of the English Dominion in India that you almost tire Us out with writing so much, and so often about the same subject, and at best You make Us loose a year or two's revenue before you put our Orders into effectual [execution, w^ch^.] was the fatall error of that heavy President Gyfford.

List of Bay goods in store.

We send you with this a List of all our Bay goods in store, to y^e^ intent that neither yourselves nor any of our ffreemen should send home too many of those sorts We are well stored with already, [it] being our desire as it shall be our reall Endeavour tha[t all] Merch^ts^. that trade upon our Indulgence, and pay us our duties honestly shall find proffitt to their Content by it.

ffamine Custome may be lett to y^e^ Jewes

We will not absolutely enjoyne you but We are apt to think that now the Rates of our Customes are setled, which as We will never lessen so We think never to encrease, it might be for our Interest to farm out our Duty of Customes

in the manner aforesaid to some of the Jewes or others, for We would have all men equally free to take our farmes that can give good security for y^e^ Paym^t^. of our Rents of whatsoever Nation they be.

But it will be certainly best to let them only from year to year, because if any of our Commanders should attempt to play tricks to the defrauding us of any Part of our new establish'd Customes, outward or Inward, We know how to oblige them hereafter by Charterparty to answer us the Custom of their whole Contents & [overplus] of their victualling Bills out of their freight, but We will hope better of all our Commanders, And all English men that have any love for their Native Country, since this matter has now been beat so thin in debates as well before his Ma^ty^. as almost in all other Publick Places, that every one sees now the English must learn to raise revenues to support their Power & encrease their strength in India, or give up the whole trade of India to the Dutch in a short time.

Only from year to year.

Wee shall expect from the Com^rs^. of our Customes a ℔ticular Acco^t^. by the very first of what Customes they receive out of y^e^ 3 ships Princess of Denmark, James & Defence, & what ℔ticular Goods, to the intent We may compare those acco^ts^. with y^e^ Contents of the said ships here at the Custom house, whereof We keep Copyes in a Book on Purpose.

Accot. of Princess, James & Defence their Custome to be sent home.

Send all the Pepper you can, and as little saltpetre as may [serve to stiffen our shipps to make them saile]worthy, because Wee have too great stores of that Commodity by us, but you may encrease the quantity of Calliatore wood usually sent & take care to provide it in time, that you may have it in readyness beforehand to put in the bottom of our ships, and for the same Purpose of Kintlage, You may send Us 200 Barrells of [that] Ordinary Indigo you formerly sent Us if you can buy it twenty ℔ Cent Cheaper, but it is a very drugg which Wee [loose] by & would have no more of it was it not for that very purpose of Kintlage, Certainly there is a better sort of it up in the Country, or else they could never dye their blew cloth so well; You may enquire after that other better sort, and send Us one hundred Barrells for a tryall.

all pepper can gett but little saltpetre [to be] sent home.

200 barrls. ordy Indigoe.

100 barrls. of oldest sort.

Though We have often heretofore said it, We think it not too much (it so mainly importing Us) to repeat our Positive orders to you again, that you send Us no more Betellees of any sort untill you have our Further Order for it, nor any kinds of Goods but such only as are contain'd in our last Lists, except you should take some other kinds of Cloth by reprizall from our Enemyes, in which case you may send them to Us as they are.

Noe more Betteelles.

You are to take notice that all Prize Goods are to pay Us Custom inwards as well as Merch^ts^. Goods, whether such Prizes be taken by the Comp^as^. own or freighted ships or other free ships.

Prize goods to pay Custome.

It's now the 23^th^. Jan^ry^. & last night came up the Purser of the Welfare with the Pacquett of y^e^ 19^th^. May last from Bombay, which ship he left in good Condition at Plymouth, she Parted w^th^. y^e^ Herbert off of Scilly Isl^ds^. & We hope they may be both well in y^e^ Downes in 2 or 3 dayes time.

welfare arrived.

Ye Herbert off Scylle.

She brought Us the most welcome news of our worthy Generals happy arrivall at Bombay, and that our Garrison & all our affairs on that side of India were in a most flourishing Condicõn, but that your hideous dolorous Complaining letter which was writt in such a stile (as if you design'd to affright them) [did a] little allay their joy, whereas if they had known the worst of your Case they should rather have laugh'd at the extravagancy of your said Letter, Our said General having lived this last five years in Continuall greater streights, and troubles far exceeding the worst of your Condition, which continued hard upon you but two or three months at most, and yourselves had never been in the least streight for money nor goods to load our ships, if you had not wasted our stock in sending Us such great quantities of severall sorts of Betellees & other fine goods, which We gave you no order for, neither had you wanted men if our sould^rs^. sent out had not been wasted at Sumatra by reason of your altering our Express orders for setling at Pryaman But that is now over, and if you can keep Bencoolen it may be the Providence of God may turn your Errour into a publick advantage for this nation, But, however, pray comitt no more such errors [in hopes] of the like success.

Or. Complaints unnecessary.

Betellees etc^a^. fine goodes [wt.] sent home blamed for.

Reply to Dutch treatise.

Wee have lately caused a Reply to be printed and Published [to a] Treatise of the Dutch East India Comp^{a}. printed at Amsterdam in ffrench, Dutch and English, as We intend our Reply shall be, w^{ch}. as soon as Printed shall be sent you. In the mean time We have enclosed in this a Copy of a supplementall Paragraph,

Wch. wee may publish

which Wee have added at the End of our Reply, and do hasten this single Paragraph the sooner to you, to the Intent you may if you think good, make & publish

In case of difference Wth.

a solemn Proclamation to the same Effect, & deliver out aboundance of written Copyes thereof in all the known Languages of India, and send them abroad unto all Nations within y^{e}. Limits of our Charter, which will be a good Employment for your Writers at leisure times, and a means to keep them out of Idleness and to mend their hands.

Dutch Injuries to be made knowne.

If you think this convenient you may doe it forthwith, but if the Dutch enter into any acts of Hostility against you, you must then make, publish and send abroad a Proclamation of a higher strain setting forth all the Injuries Damages & Violencyes the Battavians have of late years perpetrated against the English, and that

to invite their servts. into or. service.

whereas there are many men in their service averse to such acts of Violence, and which desire to have no hand in such Injurious Proceedings against their Neighbours using hostilities as the Dutch did at Bantam and Battam Capase in a time of full Peace, and that being so exceedingly overborn and oppressed you can no longer bear it, but are resolved to resist force with force, and to seek your satisfaction by armes, since you can't obtain it in an amicable way, and therefore y^{t} you do invite all Peaceable Dutch men, and all strangers whatsoever in the service of the Dutch or Battavians within the East Indies to come to you where they shall be at liberty peaceably to follow their trades, and enjoy all the liberties & immunities which the Comp^{as}. servants themselves do enjoy, and that if they desire to serve y^{e} English East India Comp^{a}. they shall be friendly entertain'd and employed in the same or better Capacity than they were in y^{e} Dutch service in India, and have the same pay and allowance for such services as the English do give unto their own servants, Officers, Seamen or souldiers respectively, and that you will protect and defend all such as shall come in unto your aid as much [and in the same manner as if] they were English men borne. This Wee positively order and enjoyn you, and to doe all other acts of Hostility against the Dutch Comp^{a}. and all their adherents in India if they do attempt by armes to force our People from Bencoolen or Indrapoora, or commence any other Warr against Us by Sea or land.

We are in some paine to think how you may safely send our packet to Surrat while the war continues with the Mogull, who is our enemy, You must contrive the best you can, we suppose the safest way may be directly thrô Sumbagees Countrey (with whom our Generall is by this time entered into a close confederacy) to Rajapore, and from thence there is an easy passage to Bombay by Sea, and 'its more than probable your messengers may meet some of our Bombay small Vessells or Boats there.

Pswade Souldiers to mary wth. ye Natives.

Induce by all meanes you can Invent our Souldiers to marry with the Native women, because it will be impossible to get ordinary young women, as we have formerly directed to pay their own passages, allthough Gentlewomen sufficient do offer themselves.

in Case Dutch complaine at or enterteining their men.

Least the Dutch should find fault with you & clamour at your entertaining their seamen into our service, we send you a copy of Captain Owens Affidavit, that you may have that, & Capt^{n}. Bowers allwaies ready by you to give them a flat answer, when you can conceal the men no longer.

in Relation to the Affaires in Bengalla.

For want of advice from you we are at a very great loss to know what orders to give you or Captain Heath with relation to our affairs in the Bay, but in regard our Chief and Council there made such shamefull delayes in the former expedition to our excessive charge, & as we fear to the disappointment of the maine designe, we are resolved not to trust them in this, but to rely intirely on

in entire relyance on Capt. Heath's Conduct.

Capt^{n}. Heath's conduct.

Being in the dark we can but guess at things, but to reduce ourselves to a probability, we conclude our people have made a Peace, or they have not, if they have made a Peace and have not fortifyed some considerable convenient place that will answer all the ends we proposed to ourselves, as well for Trade as for building Docks, and other conveniencies for repaires of our bigest ships, it is to us as if they had made no peace at all, & we have allready given them warning sufficient, to be at all times in a preparation to come on board our ships in three dayes time, being fully resolved not to loose another charge in waiting for them, & therefore our possitive Order is, that in case our servants in the Bay have not allready fortifyed themselves in some considerable place, that you conceive may in effect answer all our ends as well as Chittegam would have done, in such case we say get out Capt^{n}. Heath's goods, & the Dorothy's, & send them immediately downe to the Bay with what sloops & souldiers you think convenient by sea & land for this expedition, makeing Captain Heath Comander in chief, & send him immediately to take Chittegam, which possibly he may surprize with a very small force, comeing upon the place when they will not expect him, appoint what Officers you think fit to be of his Council, & send down with him two or three of your Countrey ships, which may be bound to Bengall upon their own occasions, & you may engage for a small matter to go up with Captain Heath to make the better appearance of power as far as Chittegam, & if it be Captain Heath's fortune comeing upon Chittegam so unexpectedly to surprize that place, he may afterwards send to M^{r}. Charnock to send a Governour & Councill to manage the Comp^{as}. business there, with what souldiers he can spare from the place of his first settlement.

Probable Conclusions.

in case Capt. Heath surprize & gett Chittegam.

But because we have justly complained of your former divideing our Force on the West Coast of Sumatra, if it be possible we would not bee guilty of the same errour ourselves, but to have a place fortifyed, & tenable against the strongest enemies we can have in Bengall fit for our shipping as aforesaid, is so indispensably necessary to our affairs, & upon the prospect of warr which may happen hereafter, that if our Agent & Council in Bengall have made such a blunder in the first enterprize, & settled upon such a place as will not in probability ever be made capable to answer our occasions, in such case rather then remaine under such a disappointment, wee must for this time first divide our force, though wee be at the charge of uniteing them as soon as we have sure footing at Chittegam, by ordering our Agent, Council and all our Officers and Souldiers immediately to desert their first imperfect settlement which we would have you do, and to carry off all our ammunition, People and Effects with them to Chittegam, & Captain Heath with the shipping and sloops that go with him, to stay as a guard to that place untill our Agent &c^{a}. with all our strength come to them from the place of their first ill advised settlement: Captain Heath to remaine Governour of Chittegam, untill our Agent or Chief and Councill come thither to take possession of the place, and governe and improve it, according to our former large advices to that purpose.

Complaine of divideing ye. fforces on ye. West Coast.

all to retire to Chittegam wth all Effects.

But because it is such a fatall errour in Politicks to divide our strength especially considering wee may probably in time have a united force against us, Viz^{t}. the Mogulls with the Dutch, Wee say therefore if the place M^{r}. Charnock may have allready settled and fortifyed upon, will in any measure answer our known purposes, in such case, since Wee cannot now help it, Wee would have you proceed to strengthen that place allready settled, and forbear proceeding against Chittegam untill you receive further orders from us.

if Agt. Charnock have already settled.

& ffortyfied in any place [then] proceede to y^{e}. strengthening thereof & fforbear Chittegam untill possitive orders.

But 'its possible our Agent & Councill by a forced misconstruction of our Orders may have made Peace without fortifying any place, which is so directly contrary to our plaine Orders, that in such case there is no Apology to be made for them. But you must with all imaginable expedition send Captain Heath as

if settled & made peace wthout ffortifieing noe appology

to be [. . .] but proceede against Chittegam adviseing y^e^ Agt. etc^a^. to retire.

aforesaid to surprize Chittegam, without so much as comeing to an Anchor in Ballasore Road, but he may send up one Sloop to the Agent wherever he is, to Order him and all the Englishmen to shift in the best manner they can, and come to him at Chittegam.

'Tis not improbable but the Agent & Council may have some ship or ships and some sloops with them to bring them off the shoar and to carry them to Chittegam, and if the sloops are not sufficient to bring away all their goods Passengers, and Luggage they may take any ships or boats of the Enemyes for that Purpose.

Objections wch. may [be made answered].

There is a materiall Objection which may be made against this design as Wee have now laid it, Viz^t^. that it will be a very difficult thing for Captain Heath and the ffleet with him to get up y^e^ great Ganges as high as Chittegam, without the aid of our Pilotts in y^e^ Bay, but that difficulty is not insuperable if you can furnish Captain Heath with any competent number of sloopes & small vessells to run before him, the great Ganges being a bold river, and Water enough for Captain Heath's ship within a League if not within half a mile of Chittegam, and a desperate disease, such an one as the sheepishness of our People in the Bay has brought Us to, must have a desperate Cure.

to provide good Linguists for Capt^n^. Heath & a stock of 10,000£.

You will consider if you send Captain Heath upon this Expedition to provide him with good Linguists, and the best Pilott you have at the ffort, & We think you must send by him a stock of about ten thousand Pounds at least to pay souldiers & defray contingent charges untill such time as Our Agent and Council in the Bay shall bring our stock there unto Chittegam, and then Capt^n^. Heath is to surrender y^e^ Governm^t^. of the Place unto them, and to pay over to them y^e^ ballance of any of y^e^ Comp^as^. stock that shall be in his hands.

Much of this Affaire left to Prest^t^. & Councill. who are sword [. . .] advise Agt^t^. of our Resolutions therein.

These are the best orders We can give you while We are so much in the Dark, and because we are soe, when We have said all Wee can We can't under these Circumstances positively confine you to y^e^. Exact observation of these orders but (now you fully know our sence) leave this matter wholly to your Conduct to doe & order therein what upon serious consideration you shall find most for our Advantage But We would have our Presid^t^. charge all our Council upon their Oaths (which they have taken to the Comp^a^.) to keep secrett all your discourses and deliberations concerning this affair, and all that We have writ you concerning [it] but it will be very necessary after you are come to a Resolution what [to doe] in this great businesse to send a Letter to M^r^. Charnock by an Express Overland to give him knowledge of so much of our Intentions [and yo^r^.] Resolutions in Pursuance of them as may be convenient for him to know beforehand.

2 objections resolved in former p^t^. of this Lre West Coast & Bengall to be well strengthened noe shipps to stay on West Coast above 2 mos.

The next question to be resolved in Case you should have no need to send Captain Heath with such a Considerable force as [aforesaid], what then will be [best for you to doe with the Defence &] Dorothy, to this question Wee say, as you may [observe] in the former part of this letter, That our Principall aim with all our force on your [side] of India is to strengthen & secure Bencoolen & Indrapoora on y^e^. West Coast, and another fortifyed settlement in Bengall, so that in generall you are to apply all the strength you can spare from our ffort [of ships] or sould^rs^. to secure the three places before mencon'd so that at this distance upon a supposition that you will be fortifyed in the Place Our Agent and Council in the Bay have already pitch'd upon, in such Case We think you should imediately send away the Dorothy to Bencoolen & Indrapoora with what sould^rs^. & slaves she can carry & other necessarys for those two forts, and order her after delivery of her sould^rs^. &c^a^. to return to Bengall with what Pepper may be in a readyness, and leave the Pepper with our Agent & Council there for sale, or to load home for Europe, and come back to you fully loaden with rice or Paddy as soon as she can be dispatch'd, but We would have you positively direct that neither the Dorothy nor any other of our freighted ships, shall stay above two months in all upon the West Coast, and in such Case as aforesaid send the New Defence directly to the Bay to bring you up a full loading of Rice & Provisions Timber, Plank and what ever else you may want.

In the Dispatch of both ships however you do resolve to employ them, make all the imaginable hast you can to get them off from y^e^ Coast of Choromandell, not only because it will be late of y^e^ Monsoon, if it were earlyer, all the time they loose upon your Coast is a certain dead losse to Us because you will certainly be in a Condition to defend yourselves from any Enemy at sea. hasten y^e^. 2 shipps off Coast.

You must take all the Moores Junks without distinction notwithstanding their wearing any European Colours, as our general is resolv'd to do at Suratt, for it being our determination [not to] be cheated by any such Tricks or Collusions, let it please or displease any Nation whatsoever, but if any Junk fall into your hands that you have reason to believe doth bonâ fide belong to y^e^ D[utch] or any other Nation in amity with his Ma^ty^. you may upon convincing Proofes thereof in our Court of Admlty release such friends Junks or the goods on board them, Our design being uprightly not to [ro]bb any of our Neighbours how strong soever We may [bee], but resolved Wee are not to be cheated by any let them take it [how] they will, for now We are engaged in Warr We are resolved to carry it on Courageously & Effectually as all Prudent men ought to doe. take all Moores Junkes, notwth. standing their European Coullours. [In case] prove [or fds.] may (after exan. in Admiralty Court) release them,

We have before discours'd to you & infofm'd [you what we] think best to be [done in case our People] in Bengall are setled in their old ffactoryes, & not in any fortifyed place, which labour Wee might have spared if We had consider'd [what] our Gen^ll^. now writes Us by y^e^ Welfare, Viz^t^. that he is engaged already in the War against y^e^ Mogull, and is resolved to pursue it with his utmost vigour, and as well provided for it, as he desires to be, and therefore our People in y^e^ Bay must be setled in a fortifyed Place if they be there at all, however w^t^ We have writt you before We will not alter, if it doth Us no service it can do Us no harm. In case Bengallees should [provide] their old ffactoryes.

You must not fayle to give us a constant accompt of w^t^. tonnage our severall ships bring yo^u^ from Bengall, it being o^r^. [possitive] resolution to [abate] them for what they fall short of their [Chart^r^.partyes], of w^ch^ give notice to o^r^ serv^ts^ in y^e^ Bay, [to prevent pretences] of want of rice or provisions to load them fully. Accot. of Tonnage from y^e^. Bay to be sent home.

Wee are

Your loving friends,

P.S.

The ffriends of M^r^. Edward Baron now Writer with you have given Us an addiconall security for y^e^ discharge of his Trust from y^e^ time that his 5. years shall be expired when as he is to enter into y^e^ degree of [a] ffactor. Wee have for a further supply sent you out y^e^ foll^o^. Persons who are entertain'd as Writers on y^e^ Usuall terms, Viz^t^ Thomas Le Neve, Edgar Pearse, Joseph Price, Samuel Brown, Thomas Stables & Henry Croke.

Jos^a^. Child Gov^r^.
James Smyth
Hen. Tulse
W^m^. Turner
Tho: Rawlinson
Nathaniel Tenche
Jos^a^. Child
Hen. Johnson
John Goodere
Natha: Mountenev
W^m^. Sedgwicke
Edwd Des Bouverie
Peter Joye

General letter to Surat, dated February 3, 1687. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 265—268.*]

Our Generall & Councill of India. London the 3^d^. of ffebruary 1686/7.

Wee have hastened this small free ship to you with all the expedition we could, principally because the materialls that are on board her for the Phenix, fell short of reaching the Bengall in the Downes, where she was, before we had his Maj^tys^. order to send any from England, & now we do confirm to you over land, as well as by this Ship, our former orders, that whatever shift you make, or

whatever itt cost, you do so fitt and equip the Phenix that she may make a probable safe voyage home for England & that this be done, with all imaginable expedition, if itt be not already effected & that what you cannot buy in India, which she may want, you do borrow from any of the Commanders of our Europe ships, whose readiness to supply any necessarys wanting to the Phenix not only ourselves, but his Maj^{ty}. will look upon as acceptable service.

Here is arrived the Andaluzia, a rich Interloper from the Bay, the ships comp^{a}., ship & goods are arrested att Portsmouth, & the prisoners are brought about by Cap^{t}. Crowe in his Maj^{tys}. Kitchen Yatch, We have had the honour to appear before his Maj^{ty}. on this occation, and had the leave in discourse to demonstrate the Nationall inconveniencies of such mens presumption, which his Maj^{ty}. was very apprehensive of, & gratiously pleased to declare that he would support his Charter to the utmost, The charge against this ship &c^{a}. is as well for piracy as Interloping, because they did presume without the king's Commission or ours, which is derived from the King, to stop the natives ships in Bengall, till they had their wills of them, as in conclusion they had, & obtain'd upon the pacification a discharge from the Moors Governours, but that will do them no good, as you will perceive by the resolution of the queries, which by his Maj^{tys}. command we took from some of his Maj^{tys}. Councill, as well Common Lawyers as Civill Lawyers, coppies wherof we send you inclosed.

Desire peace at Surratt.

Wee shall be heartily glad that all your differences with the Mogull may bee amicably composed, but we are possitively resolved never to be enslaved by the Moors Govern^{rs}. hereafter, nor to be satisfied with less, or meaner priviledges, then our Ancestors enjoyed, or that any other European Nation doth now enjoy in India, For the reintegration & security of which priviledges, we have been preparing these 4 or 5 years, by filling our warehouses with all sorts of East India goods, to our infinite cost & charge of Warehouseroom, Watchmen & interest of our stock, well knowing our inability to stand upon our rights in India with empty Warehouses att home, & now if we should tamely submitt to dishonourable termes, our great store of goods would be but as a dear bought prize in the hands of fools, that know not how to make use of itt, Now is our time or never to settle our head ffactory upon our own land att Bombay, the best port & most valuable of any in all the East Indies, if we had the politicall Science & martiall prudence which the Dutch to their great honor, exercise in all the Indies, which we have often recommended to your immitation in all respects, except their inhumane cruelties & injustice, which we abhor.

to Load all Europe shipps at Bombay.

This being our case & our resolution with God's assistance, we do require you, all excuses set apart, to load all our Europe homeward bound ships, att & from Bombay & none of them from Swally marine, althô to sweeten the Natives upon the Main, You may assure them, our trade with them shall be never the less, but that treating us civilly, and as the Dutch and Danes are treated, we will continue a ffactory att Surat, & a ffactory att Swally, & carry our goods from thence in small vessells, to be put on board our great ships in Bombay road, where our great ships hereafter shall always ride, what ever inconveniencies wee may meet with, in this change of our affairs att first.

build sloopes in ye. Country.

Wee shall not hereafter build any sloops here to send to you, being well informed that you can build better there, if you have occation for them, & of a wood which the worm will not touch, so that what need you have of such small vessells may be supplied in the Country, & we shall send you Cordage &c^{a}. from hence.

Dutch Policy to be imitated in encreasing the Revenue at [Bombay.]

Wee hope this carrying all our trade & keeping all our ships [Con]stantly att Bombay, will enable you in a little time to make the revenue of that Island 5 times what itt is att present, in imitation of the Dutch wisdome in that respect which has been the support of all their warrs, & the cause of all their sovereign dominion in India, of which wisdom of the Dutch, we shall give you fresh instances, as wee meet with them, the greatest whereof is, that now they make, as we are credibly informed, 14,000 £ Ann. of Batavia, upon the foot of the acc^{t}. of the revenue of that place, all the charges of the Garrison

&c^{a}. deducted, & att the Cape they have so farr improved in planting Vineyards, and Orchands, & setting up of Stills, that good Rhenish wine is sold by the planters to the Comp^{a}. att 2 ℔^{s}. of 8 ℔ quarter Cask, & Brandy & Sider att proportionable low rates but no planter must sell any liquor to any but to the Company only, and the Tavernes that are allowed att the Cape must & do each of them pay the Comp^{a}. 2,400 Guilders ℔ Ann. for their Licences to keep publique houses, & itt is death for any to sell Liquors without a Licence, or to go aboard any ship in the road without Licence of the Govern^{r}. Itt is possible you will not think itt prudence to set our Licences att such a high rate presently, but you may reasonably double or treble your former rates, & allow the retailers of Liquors to sell their Liquors att proportionable dearer rates then they did formerly, Wee can give you no exact rule in this, but leave to your discretion to advance our revenue by degrees, & to make such by-Laws for the good Governm^{t}. of the place, & encrease of our revenue, as you shall find necessary, giving us from time to time an acc^{t}. of what by-Laws & orders you make, which we hereby declare, shall be binding to all the Kings Subjects in that Island, untill they shall be contradicted by his Maj^{ty}. or our selves, whom he has intrusted with the exercise of sovereign power in all his Maj^{tys}. dominions beyond the Cape of Good Hope, & we do enjoyn you, according to his Maj^{tys}. last Charter, to govern the souldiers & people of that Island, as well English as others, by Martiall Law, & that Jurisdiction lately established of the Admiralty, for trying controversies between party and party in a Summary way & according to the usage of the Civill Law, which only is proper for India, the Common Law of England, being a peculiar to this Kingdom, & not adapted in any kind to the Government of India & the nature of those people, as we have formerly writ you, & have found by long & wofull experience.

Licences for Tavernes.

Martiall Law

Cap^{t}. Cribb will bring you an acco^{t}. of the trade of the Coast on the other side of the Cape of Good Hope for Elephants teeth, Gold & Ambergreese, which is a trade very considerable if itt be kept intirely to the Comp^{a}. or to some particular person or society of men, by their permission, the farm whereof is worth annually in our opinion 1,500 ℔ Annum at present & may come in time to be worth as many Thousand, when there is a Settled ffort upon the Coast, as we have understood from Cap^{t}. Drero & his mates which came lately from thence in a small ship which had but 200 stock, & brought as much Teeth hither, as made above 3,000£ Ster^{g}. The principall places of trade they say are in the River Dosrees in the latitude of 25 near Cape S^{t}. Maries, where there is a small Island, & that the best [land]ing for great ships is in the River Delago which the Portugueez call Marquesall within seven leagues of the Island, where there is about 3 fathom water [entrance att the] Barr, but much more water within the River, the Portuguez from Mosambique [& Saffola] usually come into those Rivers once a year with a ship about 300 Tonns & 400 men, women & children, who stay there 6 months, speak the Country language perfectly & travell two or 300 miles up into the Country for trade by land, but when that is over go back with their ship, & leave their little Town of Booths empty, untill they return again the next year. The fairest weather on the Coast is in May, June, July and August, the worst season for coming about the Cape, so that if there were a ffort there, no place can be more convenient for our homeward bound ships to stay & refresh att when they are to come about the Cape in that ill Season of the year, especially considering that a good Ox may be bought for brass to the vallue of a Dollar, & all other provisions proportionably, with wax & honey in super aboundance, besides which in time as good wine & Sider may be produced there in great plenty as att the Dutch plantations in Table Bay att the Cape.

Coast other side y^{e}. cape. Elephts. Teeth Gold & Amber-greese. farm worth lb. 1,500 ℔ Annm.

Manner of y^{e}. Portuguese tradeing.

Wee have given you the foregoing large description of that trade & Coast, that you may be the better able to treat with Cap^{t}. Cribb, & those that went upon his ship, for the farm of that trade, from the Comp^{a}. exclusive to all others for

Yᵉ above trade to be lett to [ffarm] Conditionally.

7 years, obliging them to build & maintain a ffort in the River Delago, or upon the Island Sᵗ. Marys, att their own charge & to redeliver the said ffort, undefaced & in good repair with the Gunns & Ammunition thereto belonging, att the end of the 7 years farm, which we [conceive] is a much more advantagious way for the Compᵃ. then to be att the charge of [erecting] a ffort themselves, att this time, while you know we have many other Irons in the fire.

Cap Say stole out Englᵈ.

Intends for Muscatt.

Told seized & his Estate confiscate.

Tryed by Martiall Law.

The Welcome, Interloper that arrived last, came off better then the Andaluzia is like to do, by an accident which was this, after the Duke of Monmouths rebellion, & many executions of the ringleaders, his Majᵗʸ. sett forth a Genˡˡ. pardon, which extended to all offences committed before that time that the Welcome left the Coast of India, but that accident likewise was very favourable to many other old Interlopers, notwithstanding which Capᵗ. Say having preferred his service to the Compᵃ. and being rejected, and finding none here that durst employ him again in that Interloping trade is with his single person only, stole out of England & as we hear intends for Muscatt overland, to pick up his old remaines, but if you can by any meanes take [him] in India we would have you bring him to Bombay a prisoner, confiscate all his goods, by your Court of Admiralty, & try & adjudg his person by Martiall Law, according to the Kings last Proclamation to that purpose, but upon his submission respite his execution untill his Majᵗʸˢ. further pleasure be known concerning him, detaining him in the mean time in safe custody.

There is one William Ogden, Coopers mate in the Emerauld ffrigat, on whose behalf his friends have importuned us, that he may be permitted to return for England by the first oppertunity. If therefore that ship be in Port, or as soon as she comes in, we would have you give him leave accordingly, if he be willing & desire itt. Wee commend you & our affairs to the Guidance of the Almighty. We remaine

Your very Loving Friends,

Wᴹ. Jarret	Josᴬ. Child Govʳ.
Ro. Marshall	Ben : Bathurst Depᵗʸ.
Tho. Rawlinson	Berkeley
Wᴹ. Sedgwick	Edwᴰ. des Bouverie
Richᴰ. Herne	John Creed
James Ward	John Goodere

General Letter to Fort St. George, dated February 6, 1688. Per Defence.
[*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 271–273.*]

President & Council of Fort St. George.

London the 6ᵀᴴ Febʳʸ. 1687–88.

Since Wee closed our larger Pacquett to you Wee have recᵈ. a short Letter from Mʳ. Bloome by the Herbert, which ship arriv'd at Plimᵒ. about Eight dayes after the Welfare, and they are both kept there yet by contrary winds.

700 Bahar Pepper in Yorke ffort.

Mʳ. Bloome's Letter is dated from York ffort the 9ᵗʰ of July last wherein he Writes that he had in our Godownes about 700 Bahar of Pepper, and doubted not in a very short time to have a very great quantity, but for want of our order he supplyed not the Herbert with any of ours, But left those entrusted with that Cargoe to contract for themselves at Syllebar, where it seems to Us she might have

had a Loading, if she could have stayed any considerable time for it, but the Commander being kill'd at Syam, and most of the Officers dead or absent, the ships Compª. were ungovernable and would not stay longer upon that Coast, and therefore yᵉ ship broᵗ. home only about 140 Tons of Pepper, and 100 tons of other goods taken in at Syam and Atcheen, and 11 Chests in silver of the 15. which the Compª. sent out upon her. This is our apprehension by what Mʳ. Cull the Present Comander writes us from Plimº., but We shall have a perfecter Accoᵗ. when the ship comes up.

ffortifie and strengthen Bencooloon

Upon the whole matter it is very Plain to Us that Bencoolen will afford Pepper enough if it were once well fortifyed & otherwise supplyed as We have order'd you, in which let no care be wanting on your Part.

revolucons in Syam.

Wee have a fflying report of great Revolucons in Syam, and that the ffrench were turn'd out there, which if it be true We conjecture Faulkon fell with them, and that the distress our Warr against that King put his subjects into might be some Cause of hasting the Revolucon. This Report comes from the spanish Embassador, but by what Way he had it Wee do not know but incline to believe there may be some thing in it.

encreas of pay may Encourage Souldiers to goe to West Coast.

Since Wee have raised our Pay 2 Dollars ℔ Mensem at Bencoolen Wee can't imagine but some of your English souldiers as well as other Europeans will be willing to goe & continue there, and therefore Wee would have you, by some ship or sloop as soon as you receive this with all Possible Expedicon to send thither ten or 12 European Souldʳˢ. 20. or 30 slaves, and at least one or two ffactors to be youngest of Councill to Mʳ. [Bloom] 6 Pieces of Ordnance with live Cattle, rice, and whatever [else] you think our People there may stand in need, of which you will understand better by further advices from themselves than We can give you from hence, and if We have a settlement in Bengall write to Our Agent there not to fail of supplying Bencoolen speedily with salted Pork, live cattle, and every thing else that may be best and cheapest procured in that Country. The like We say as to Indrapoora, thô Wee look upon Bencoolen as yᵉ. Principall place and indeed in most want at Present, not only because Mʳ. Bloom is there alone without any Councill to assist him, but also because We understand the Pryaman was arriv'd at Indrapoora long before the Herbert came from the West Coast, and on her were several worthy men, as Wee have formerly writ you, fit to strengthen that Place, and put it in good order, and many good Materialls besides 30. or 40 Madagascar slaves.

20 or 30 slaves to be sent.

Ordinance etcª. to be sent.

to be supplyed from yᵉ. Bay.

Lead & bricks.

Mʳ. Bloom is in great necessity for Bricks, send him some by every Conveyance, and send him ten Pigs of lead by the first to make Petties.

Bricklayers & Lime.

Send him likewise some Chynam or Lyme and as many Bricklayers as you can ℔swade to goe, for now is the time or never to seat ourselves strongly in that Country, and secure a Pepper trade to England unto Perpetuity.

Tenassaree.

If the News be true that the King of Syam is dead and Phaulkon killed, it was a brave and just opportunity for you to seiz and fortify Tenasseree (*flagrante instante bello*) and there is no doubt but to obtain Peace with you and assistance from [you] the New Prince would be content to grant the sovereignty & [Customes] &cª. of that Place for ever to his Majᵗʸ. for the Compªˢ. Use [with] some Convenient Territory thereunto, and then you would have been admirably fitted with all Requisites to the support of a Navall force on that side of India. But if you have Chittegam Wee shall have the less need of Tenasseree althô. in truth the Latter Place is of inestimable value to the English Nation if We could have it on the terms aforesaid by Previous or subsequent Consent vizᵗ. with such a Revenue appendent to it as would fully defray the Charge of fortyfying & defending it strongly at all times, but without such a Certain Revenue no such Place can doe Us any Good. Victory itself when it enriches not the Conquerers (that is those that pay the Charge of yᵉ Warr) being rather Losse than Gain.

Chittegam.

After Perusall of the Enclosed to Bencoolen (keeping a Copy of it by you) send it forward to Mʳ Bloome, and perform on [your parts] every thing requir'd of you therein towards the support of that important Place, as to sloopes, souldiers,

slaves, bricks & all other necessaryes. So commending you & our Affairs to y^e^ Guidance & protecc̃on of the Almighty We remaine

Your Loving Friends,

Jos^a^. Child Gov^r^.
Ben : Bathurst Dep^ty^.
Ja : Edward
Beaufort — John Moore
Worcester — James Smyth
Berkeley — Edward Des Bouverie
Hen : Johnson — Peter Joye
Jo : Creed — John Goodere
Hen : Tulse
Tho : Rawlinson
R. Hutchinson

General Letter to Bencoolen, dated February 6, 1688. Per Defence. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 275–278.*]

Our Governour & Counc^ll^.
at Bencoolen.

London y^e^. 6^th^ ffebruary 1687/8.

We received yo^r^. short L̃re of y^e^ 9^th^ July by y^e^ Herbert, and could have wished you had supplied her with some of our own Pepper to make up her full loading, but you are excusable for not doing it, because you wanted our Order.

all necessarryes & provisions to be sent from Coast & Bay.

Besides what we have sent you ourselves, We have writt to ffort S^t^. George & Bengall to send you all kind of Necessaries & provisions, as well alive as dead, & also some soldiers & slaves but it must be yo^r^ especiall and continuall care to strengthen & inlarge yo^r^ fortifications, & to get good dry substantiall Hutts or Barrocks for yo^r^ Soldiers to ly in, & now we give them such extraordinary pay, We hope not only the English but other Europeans wilbe glad to resort to and continue w^th^ you.

Keepe good store [. . .]

Keep alwayes as great a store of Pepper by you, as you can, y^t^ you may be ready at any time to give dispatch to a great ship, and spare not for any reasonable charge to build good Warehouses & all other reasonable conveniences to our ffort and ffactory, especially such as respect y^e^ safety of our Goods, strength of y^e^ place ag^st^. all Enemies w^t^. soever & the preservac̃on of Mens Lives.

short in advices.

If we certainly knew your Wants, we should send you every thing needfull, or order it to be sent to you from ffort S^t^. George or Bengall, but you are so short in all yo^r^ Advices in y^t^ respect y^t^ we know not, when we go too fast or too slow, neither should we ever have known yo^r^ want of Biskett, salted Pork, Brandy & live Cattell, if it had not been by an accidentall L̃re to our Gov^r^. from M^r^ Tho : Lucas. You must hereafter be more express in such informac̃ons, especially to ffort S^t^. George and Bengall, from whence you may be soonest & cheapest supplied.

Unkettle to take place as 2d.

We hope M^r^. Unkettle will come to you from Indrapoora. He is a very able Ingenious & a worthy man very capab[le of] setting out the Lines regularly & properly for y^e^ enlargement of your ffort & for putting you into a right posture of defence, when he comes to you we appoint him to be of yo^r^. Councill & to take place as Second.

Ordinance to be sent from ffort St. George.

We have writt to ffort S^t^. George to send you 6 pieces of Ordnance more to mount upon your Bastions, & if you want a further supply of them or any other kind of Arms or amunic̃on you may have them for writing thither.

We have likewise writt them, to send you 10 Pigs of Lead, w^ch^ to begin our prerogative of Coynage, you may coin into Pettees in the same manner as you see y^e^ Natives do, And imploy such of y^e^ Natives in that work as have been used to do it under y^e^ great man, w^ch^ as you say is come down to dwell among you, & by degrees, without giving disgust to the Natives we would have you be raising some revenues towards y^e^ Comp^as^. excessive charge there, according to our former Orders, & after y^e^ Dutch methods at Padagn, but in a much more moderate measure.

Lead alsoe 10 piggs to be made into pettaes.

opinin of y^e^ greate man [. . .] who came downe.

If you have too much of any thing sent you from hence, or any other place, supply Indrapoora w^th^ part thereof, and sell y^e^ overplus to our most advantage.

If over stock supply Indrapora.

That yo^r^. Coast should be y^e^ more frequented w^th^ English shipping w^ch^ we know gives a kind of Life & encouragem^t^. to our people there, we have upon mature Consideracon given licence to all our servants & ffreemen in India to trade to y^e^ West Coast of Sumatra paying us 5 ℔ Cent custome for all Goods landed & ½ penny ℔ pound for all pepp^r^ shipt off from thence to be resold in China, or any other part of India, w^ch^ Dutyes you are impartially to collect & exact from all Persons w^t^soever trading by our said licence, whether the Pepper be loaden immediately from y^e^ places where we have fforts, or from any other place or places upon y^t^ Coast, because if we had not made those costly settlements & fortifications & should not defend them w^th^ a great charge, y^e^ English nacon nor any under them could continue any commerce upon y^t^ Coast.

liberty for ffree trade.

paying 5 ℔ Ct. for all goods Landed & ½ penny ℔ lb peppr shipt off.

Whenever taken in.

We observe or conjecture, y^t^ y^e^ Herbert left great quantities of Pepper at Syllibar by reason of her hasty coming away from hence & we hope you are so prudent as to buy it of y^e^ Syllibar men & lay it up in our Godownes at Bencoolen, if you did it not, never make such an Omission again, but take all opportunities to fill our Warehouses, & if you want Warehouse rooms build more, remembring alwayes, y^t^ it is Impossible for you to be overstored w^th^ Pepper, that Commodity being the Prize y^t^ is now contended for between us and the Dutch, & you will often unexpectedly have ships fall in with you to load Pepp^r^, unto whom you must give a quick dispatch, that being y^e^ life of trade, & the only means to make all ships willing to come upon that Coast.

Conjectures.

You must be sure alwayes to keep yo^r^self well stockt with Boats or small Prowes, y^t^ you may give any ship a speedy discharge & a quick reloading.

to be well stored w^th^ Boates.

M^r^ Unkettle hath all sorts of Carpenters Tooles with him & five or six able Master Carpenters which are sober discreet men, You may do well to write to Indrapoora as we have done to you, that they supply you with all sorts of Tooles & Workmen that they can spare & you are in want of.

all sortes Carpentrs. Tooles.

In May next at farthest we believe we shall send you another ship from hence with Deal Boards, Spars, Bread, Brandy, Flour & provisions for the Belly, and 30 or 40 soldiers to strengthen yo^r^. Garrison, she wilbe obliged to stay but about a Month on yo^r^. Coast, it will therefore be the more necessary that you should bestir yo^r^self to get in Pepper beforehand, to give her a speedy loading for the ffort.

an other Shipp intended in May w^th^ provisions.

If you can possesse that great man that is come down to you with y^e^ danger of the Dutch sending a force against you, and y^e^ necessity of yo^r^. being instantly very strongly fortified, possibly you may prevail with him to force great numbers of the Country Peop[le] to come in to you & worke gratis upon yo^r^. fortifications for one or two Months in the best season of the year, and so dispatch your Security at once, and it wilbe worth a good Piscash to that great man, if thereby you can so accomplish yo^r^. busyness in a short time.

greate hopes of Assistance from ye great man at Bencooloo.

We have ordered our President and Councill to let you have alwayes one or two sloopes attending on your Coast and sailing betweene your place, Indrapoora & ffort S^t^ George, that you may thereby entertain the better correspondence & mutually assist one the other, Not doubting but you will be so prudent, as often

one or 2 sloopes to

attending on ye West Coast.

as is possible, to send our sloopes fully loaden with Pepper to the ffort to ease in some measure the great charge of them.

So commending you & our Affaires to the Guidance and protecc̃on of the Almightye We remain,

Peter Joye.	John Creed	Josia Child, Governour
John Moore.	Jas. Edwards	Benj. Bathurst Dep^{ty}.
Tho: Rawlinson.	John Goodere	Berkeley.
James Smith.	Henry Johnson	Edw^{D}. Des Bouverie.
Henry Tulse.		

Instructions to Captain James Thwaites Commander of the Dorothy.

We having freighted the ship Dorothy, whereof you are Commander, for a Voyage to ffort S^{t}. George in the East Indi[ies,] you are with the first opportunity as Wind and Weather [shall] permitt, to sail into the Downes, and thence to ply yo^{r}. Voyage, staying only Eight dayes at y^{e} Can^{ry}. Islands for taking in Wine, from whence you are to make the best of your way for ffort S^{t} George, where being arrived, you are to deliver to our Presid^{t}. and Councill our Pacq^{t}. herewth. deliver'd you, As also all the soldiers on board you, and to follow the Order & direcc̃ons of our said President and Councill, serving Us in Peace or Warfare as they shall have occasion to make use of you, not exceeding 12 Months upon the Terms & Condic̃ons menc̃oned in Chr̃eparty, and after their dismission of you from our service You are to prosecute yo^{r}. trading Voyage in India according to Agreem^{t}.

We desire you to keep up the Worship of God on board yo^{r}. ship & good Orders among yo^{r}. men, & to take care of their healths & y^{t} our Rules be observ'd by you and Yo^{r}. Company.

And in regard We have an open War at this time wth the Mogoll or great King of Indostan, and the King of Syam and their Subjects and Vassalls, You are not only to have the more care to keep yo^{r}. ship in a Posture of Defence when you come upon the Coast of India, but if you meet wth any ships, Junks or Vessells belonging to either of the said Kings, or either of their subjects, or to the Sanganoes, that are Pyrats, You are to carry them with you to be tryed by our Court of Admiralty at ffort S^{t}. George or Bombay without breaking [bulk. etc,] diminuc̃on of any Books, Lr̃es, Papers or any thing found on board them, and in case of resistance to force them to go wth you by all hostile means within yo^{r}. power, And in case any such ship, Junk or Vessell and their loading happen to be condemned [as] prize by due form of Law in our said Court of Admlty, after his Maj^{tys}. one tenth part deducted, the residue of the Nett proceed of the said Prize ships or Goods is to be divided into six equall parts, whereof one sixth to be for the Comp^{a}. & y^{e} remaining 5 sixths, one half thereof to yo^{r}. self & ships Company and the other Moyety to the use of the Owners of your ship. So commending you to the protecc̃on of the Almighty & wishing you a prosperous Voyage, We remaine.

Yo^{r}. Loving ffriends

East India House
31st. Jan^{ry}. 1687

Josia Child, Governour	Nath: Mountene
Josia Child	Tho: Rawlinson
Edw^{D}. Des Bouvery	James Smith
John Creed	Natha: Tench
John Goodere	Hen: Tulse
Henry Johnson	Willm: Turner
Peter Joye	

GENERAL LETTER TO BENCOOLEN, DATED APRIL 4, 1688. PER PERSIA MERCHANT.
[*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, pp. 283–285.*]

LONDON, [4TH] APRIL 1688

OUR GOVERNOUR & COUNCLL.
AT BENCOOLEN

With this we send you copies of our former Letters of the 30th December & 6th of February last by the Mary, who left out so many of [ye provisions] designed for your reinforcement, that hath caused us to hasten this ship the Persia Merchant the sooner after her.

Our Bills of Loading & Invoices will informe you what you are to receive out of this ship, & the copy of the Charter-party what time you may detaine her in the Road, which time of one month, you must on no pretence exceed one day, but rather dispatch her sooner with what you [have] ready than keep her a minute longer then her time for any advantage whatsoever, for such speedy dispatch of ships from your Coast is not only necessary to our service, but is the only meanes to make the people of all ships chearfully to frequent your Coast, by meanes whereof you will bee the better supplyed with all necessaries, & the better guarded by the greater number of ships that will resort to you, one fresh ship being better for your defence, than two that have lyen long sickning upon that Coast, which is much more unhealthfull to our seamen in our ships then it will be to you that live upon the high Land, when you are once well hous'd & well provided with live Cattel, fresh provisions and all other necessaries.

not to detaine shipps upon any pretence after their time is out.

That you may see our further care for you, we have inclosed to you a copy of Instructions to Captain Brangwin of whom & of all others hereafter you are impartially to exact our Powder, Anchorage, Sea Custome and Pepper Duty of a half Peny ℔ Pound for whatever is loaden by the Commanders or others for any private acco[t].

The Guns on board the Persia Merchant mount as soon as you can upon your works, & make it your business night & day to increase the strength of that place to such a degree, that if the Dutch should [at any] time [be so wicked] as to attempt to [dispossess] us before they be masters of it, is may cost them store of bloud, wherefore be alwaies upon your guard, keep your souldiers constant[ly to] the exercise of their Armes, [your ordance and] Bastions & all things belonging to them allwaies compleatly [fixt] and ready prepared for a formidable defence as if the enemies were at the gate, & Rice or Paddy in store [for six months seige], or so long at least as that kind of provision could [keep, which if it be boil'd Rice, such as may] be sent you from the Fort or Bengall [we know will keep sound and] good above twelve months.

Mount ye Gunns.

gett store Rice & Paddy.

We can think of nothing materiall to write you De Novo, that wee do not find mentioned in one of the inclosed copies: But every thing in them is so necessary to be inculcated by us & observed by you, that we must injoyne you to read them over again in your open Council, & to put every paragraph of our aforesaid Letters into effectual execution, viz[t]. The carefull preservation & increase of your live Cattel, good husbandry in the expence of your stores supply of Indrapoora with all things you can spare & they want, especially the furnishing yourself with fit Boats, & such a sufficient number of them, that you may be able to give a speedy discharge of Loading to any ship.

We had allmost forgott to tell you that we are sending Commissioners again into Holland by his Majesties order & Commission to treat about the restitution of Bantam: But we promise ourselves no better success from this Negotiation then we have had by the like formerly, It is our Armes we must trust to under God: & therefore while you have Peace make all the preparation you can for a strong defence in time of war, & use your interest with the Natives to improve the present juncture of Peace to secure your liberty & freedome to themselves &

treate about Bantam little hopes of success.

their posterities for ever by assisting you with heart & hand to make that place tenable against any ordinary power.

It came late into our minds, but if we can, we shall yet send you three Hospitall Boyes for writers, that may easily learne the perfection of that Countrey Language, & it is very probable we may send you another ship from hence to load Pepper for private acco^{ts}: about the month of August next, by which ship we shall send you more Bisket, Flower & Brandy, about one hundred good small Armes & some further supply of Souldiers, being willing to take all opportunities & give great liberty to private ships to resort to your place, to the end you may be the more constantly & better supplyed with every thing you can reasonably desire from Europe.

Hospittall Boyes intended.

We send you herewith five of our Printed Treaties concerning all differences now depending between us & the Dutch, three whereof are allwaies to remaine in our Fort of Bencoolen for instruction of all that are or shall be in our service there, & two you are to send for the same purpose to our Fort at Indrapoora.

The Names of the Hospitall youths that take passage on this ship y^{e} Persia Merch^{t}. are Thomas Guy John Jones and Thomas Everall who are bound by Covenant to serve Us 7 years at y^{e}. sallary of [ten pounds] ℔ annum each, as are those youths also to have who went on y^{e} Mary & all other Writ^{rs}. & 20 ℔ annum the ffact^{rs}. We have not else to add but remaine,

sent their names.

Your loving Friends

John Moore.	Josia Child.	Josia Child, Governour.
Rath. Mounteney.	Thomas Frederick.	Benj. Bathurst Dep^{ty}.
Thomas Rawlinson.	John Goodere.	Worcester.
James Smith.	Francis Gosfright.	Berkeley.
Henry Tulse.	Ric. Hutchinson.	George Boun.
William Turner.		

General letter to Fort St. George, Dated April 11, 1688. Received February 19, 1689. Per Madrass Friggot. Persia Merchant. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 8, p. 287.*]

Our President & Council at Fort S^{t}. George — London, the 11th. April 1688

This Ship Persia Merch^{ts}. Chrẽpty, and our Instruccons to the Commander Cap^{t}. Benj^{n}. Brangwin which he will show you, will sufficiently inform you of y^{e}. Principall design of his Voyage & y^{e} terms of his affreightm^{t}. If he comes to you, dispose of the ship so as may be most for y^{e} Comp^{as}. advantage which We cannot particularly direct because We have no certainty how our [affaires] stand in Bengall, or upon y^{e} West Coast, But to one of those Places to supply & reinforce our Garisons We conceive It is necessary you should send her, but Wee think it not advisable for our service to limit you strictly to both or either of those Places not knowing what better employm^{t}. may present in such a Time of Warr as you are engaged in either for Mocha, Persia or Bussorah or on y^{e} other side for China Neither what need you may have of such a ship to load home to Us. But in Gen^{l}. We say Let her not lye idle in Madrass Road any Number of Days, but put her upon some Employment or other that may more than compensate the Comp^{as}. charge of Demorage.

shipp ride in Maddrass.

It is very uncertain whether this ship may be dispatch'd so soon from Bencoolen as to save her Monsoon to the ffort, and if she can't attempt that with safety she is to go for Bombay, and therefore Wee write you of no business at Present, but by two ships now bound for Bombay have writt our thoughts at large to our General and Council there, and have order'd them to let you know our minds and accordingly to give you directions in all such things in our said Grall Lrẽs as concern y^{e} Presidency of ffort S^{t}. George, and you are accordingly to observe & pursue such Orders as you shall receive from them.

if cannot save her monsoone then goe to Bombay.

We resolve to send you an early ship or two in 7ber or October next, by whom you shall have o^{r}. larger answers to all y^{e} Advices We shall receive from you this summer.

It is very chargeable sending such great Numbers of souldiers from England and therefore you may do very well is using your best understanding & Contrivance to gett & retain in our service all y^{e} fforreign Europeans you can & y^{e} rather because one of them season'd to y^{e} Country Wee think may be as good as two fresh men sent from hence.

The Syam Merch^{t}. deliver'd at Vizigap^{a}. 4 Masts & four Spars not menc̃on'd in their Invoice nor Bills of Loading for that they were Invoic'd on y^{e} Defence who left them there ashore for y^{e} Syam Merch^{t}., thô they had sign'd Bills of Loading for them. We expect that our acc^{t}. is Credited for y^{e} same, if it be not, take care that it be done. The Masts were Invoic'd at 6. pounds and the sparrs at 30. a P. is together £30. So commending you and our Affaires to y^{e}. Guidance & protec̃con of y^{e}. Almighty We remain

masts and yards left at Vizagapatam

Yo^{r}. Loving ffriends

JA: EDWARDS	W^{M}. TURNER	JOS^{A}. CHILD Gov^{r}.
W^{M}. SEDGWICKE	JOHN GOODERE	BEN: BATHURST Dep^{ty}.
JOSEPH HERNE	JOS. CHILD Ju^{r}.	JOHN MOORE
JAMES SYMTH		R. HUTCHINSON
		THO: COOKE
		GEORGE BOUN

LIST OF THE COMPANY'S PACQUET TO FFORT S^{T}. GEORGE PER SHIP WILLIAMSON.

No. 1. Companies Generall dated 7th January 1686 and 10th. D^{o}.
2. Copy's of the Companies Generall dated 22th. October 1686.
3. Copy of the Companies Generall dated 12 d^{o}.
4. Invoice of the ship Williamson.
5. Bill of lading d^{o}. ship.
6. Copy of d^{o}. ships Charterparty.
7. Copy of his present Ma^{ties}. Charter dated 12th. Aprill 1686.
8. His Ma^{ties}. Writt wth. a Proclamac̃on recalling the English.
9. Companies Comission for establishing y^{e}. Council at y^{e} ffort.
10. Copy of the Companies Comission to S^{r}. John Biggs.
11. Companies Generall to the Bay dated 7th. January 1686-7.
12. Companies Generall to Suratt & Persia dated 30th Decem^{r}. 1686.
13. Order of Court concerning Amber dated 22th. Decem^{r}. 1686.
14. Copy of M^{r}. Jearsey's letter to M^{r}. Johnson 1 Decem^{r}. 1662.
15. Companies Indulgence to ffactors &c.
16. Pattern of Mullmulls and Doreas.
17. Lists of Goods to be provided at the Coast & in the Bay. Also what are not to be sent, and of what are remaining in the Companies warehouse in England.
18. List of permissive trade.

LIST OF THE PACQUET PER SHIP RESOLUTION.

1. Comp^{as}. General to y^{e} Fort dated the 8th. April 1687.
2. Copy of the Comp^{as}. General to D^{o}. ℔ y^{e} W^{m}son dated the 7th. 10th. and 22th January 1686/7 with 3 Lists of Goods.
3. Copy of the Comp^{as}. Generall to D^{o}. of the 9th. ffeb^{ry}. 1686/7.
4. Duplicates of the Comp^{as}. Generalls to y^{e} ffort dated y^{e} 22th and 23th. March 1686/7.

5. Invoice of Goods ℔ Resolution.
6. Bill of loading Ditto.
7. Copy of Ditto Charterparty.
8. Muster of a Neckcloth striped with redd.
9. Copy of the Cargo of the Andaluzia.
10. Petition of M^{r}. Edward Ord and his Lr̃e, with Copy of the Order of the Prerogative Court concerning the Estate of M^{r}. Ord deceased.
11. List of the ffree-Merchants permitted to reside at Fort S^{t} George as free Merchants, and of such Gentlewomen as are licenced to take passage thither.
12. List of Bullion sent on private trade.
13. List of Goods laden on Acco^{t}. of Private trade (sent apart).
14. Companies Indulgence of trade to ffactors &c^{a}.
15. Comp^{as}. Generall to Surratt dated the 8th April 1687, with Copyes of y^{e} Comp^{as}. Lr̃es to D^{o}. dated y^{e}. 3^{d}. and 18th ffebruary and 9th and 23th March 1686/7 & Cargo of y^{e}. Andaluzia, to be sent forward for Surrat.
16. Comp^{as}. Generall to the Bay dated y^{e} 8th April 1687. with Copy of the Comp^{as}. Generall to Ditto dated y^{e} 7th Januarv 1686/7. with 3 Lists of Bav Goods, And Copy of y^{e}. Andaluzia's Cargoe.

List of the Comp^{as}. Pacquett to y^{e} Fort by the Princess of Denmark.

No. 1. Comp^{as}. Generall to the ffort dated y^{e}. 28th. September 1687.
2. Comp^{as}. Generall to Ditto dated y^{e}. 12th. October 1687.
3. Copy of the Comp^{as}. Generall to D^{o}. ℔ Resolution dated y^{e}. 8th. April 1687.
4. Comp^{as}. Generall to y^{e} Bay dated y^{e} 28th. September 1687 & Pacquett.
5. Invoice of the Princess Denmark.
6. Bill of Loading Ditto.
7. Charterparty ditto.
8. Charterparty of the Loyall Merch^{t}.
9. Charterparty of the James.
10. Commission under the larger seal for displacing M^{r}. Gray & establishing M^{r}. Higginson.
11. List of Coast Goods to be provided for y^{e} year 1689.
12. List of D^{o}. Goods of which none are to be sent.
13. List of Bay Goods to be provided for y^{e} year 1689.
14. Papers rec^{d}. from M^{r} Da[vis] concerning the Differences between him and M^{r}. Cawley.
15. Extract of M^{r} Lucas's Letter from Bencoolen dated y^{e}. 30th. March [1687]
16. List of Bullion sent on Acc^{t}. of Private trade.
17. List of Wines &c^{a}. goods sent on acc^{t}. of Permissive trade.
18. Accomptant Gen^{ls}. Letter dated y^{e}. 18th. November 1687.

List of the Comp^{as}. Pacquett to y^{e} Fort by the Defence.

1. Comp^{as}. Generall to y^{e} ffort dated y^{e} 25th. January 1687/8.
2. Copy of the Comp^{as}. Generall to y^{e} ffort dated y^{e} 28th September 1867. by y^{e} Princess of Denmark.
3. Copy of y^{e} Comp^{as}. Generall to Ditto dated y^{e} 12th 8 ber ℔ Ditto ship.
4. Copy of y^{e} Comp^{as}. Gen^{ll}. to Bencoolen ℔ y^{e} Mary dated 30th Dec^{r}. 16[88.]
5. Copy of y^{e} Comp^{as}. Gen^{ll}. to y^{e} ffort dated y^{e} 12th Dec^{r}. 1687 ℔ y^{e} James.
6. Invoice of y^{e} Defence.
7. Bill of Loading Ditto.
8. Charterparty D^{o}. ship.

9. Captain Owens' Affidavitt y^e^ Copy.
10. Copy of Captain Bowers Affidavitt.
11. Copy of a supplementall Paragraph in y^e^ Comp^as^. Reply to y^e^ Dutch Treatise.
12. Duplicate of y^e^. Comp^as^. Commission for displacing M^r^. Jn^o^. Gray &c.
13. List of Goods to be provided at y^e^ Coast for y^e^ year 1689.
14. List of Coast Goods whereof none to be sent.
15. List of Bay Goods to be provided for y^e^ year 1689.
16. List of Bay Goods remaining in y^e^ Warehouses.
17. List of D^o^. Goods whereof none to be sent.
18. Extract of M^r^. Lucas's Letter concerning Bencoolen.
19. Relation of Maccassar fight &c^a^.
20. Contents of Goods laden on y^e^ ships Princess of Denmark, James, [Anne], Dorothy, Mary & Defence, and their victualling Bills.
21. List of Bullion sent on Private trade by the James & Defence.
22. Two Books of Treatyes of Peace.
23. Two Copyes of the Comp^as^. Generall to y^e^ Bay [on] ships Princess & James.
24. [*line lost.*] [*Omitted in T.O. copy also.*]
25. M^r^. Barrons Covenants and Bond to be a ffactor.
26. Comp^as^. Gen^l^. to the ffort dated y^e^ 6^th^. ffeb^ry^. 1687/8.
27. Comp^as^. Gen^ll^. to Bencoolen dated y^e^. 6^th^ ffeb^ry^ 1687/8
28. Comp^as^. Pacquett to y^e^ Gen^ll^. & Council at Bombay.
29. Entertainment of souldiers sent on y^e^ Resolution, James, Anne & Defence for y^e^ ffort, and the Mary for Bencoolen.
30. Copy of the Dutch Consultation book for the year 1672.
31. Box with the Medall and Chain for Cap^t^. Arbuthnett. in y^e^. Box apart.

The Comp^as^. Charter for incorporating ffort S^t^. George &c^a^ under their larger seal made up in a Case with three Maces, a sword, and a silver Oar meñcon'd in y^e^ Invoice & Marked I. R.

LIST OF THE COMPANIES PACQUETT TO THE FORT BY THE JAMES.

1. Companies Generall to the Fort dated y^e^. 12^th^ [Dec]ember 1687.
2. Comp^as^. Generall to the Agent and Council in the Bay [of d^o^. Date].
3. List of Goods sent open.
4. Invoice of the James.
5. Bill of Lading D^o^.
6. Charterparty ditto.
7. Charterparty of the Jonas.
8. Charterparty of y^e^ Loyall Merchant.
9. Charterparty of the John & Mary.
10. Charterparty of the Mary.
11. Two Bookes of Treatyes of Peace between Engl^d^. & other Nations.
12. Copy of Captain Owens Affidavitt—

LIST OF THE COMP^AS^. PACQUETT TO FORT S^T^. GEORGE BY THE PERSIA MERCH^T^.

1. Companies Generall to ffort S^t^. George dated y^e^ 11^th^ April [1688.]
2. Copy of D^o^. dated y^e^ 6^th^ ffeb^ry^. 1687/8 sent ℔ Defence & [Dorothy.]
3. Copy of D^o^. to Bencoolen dated 4^th^ April 1688 ℔ y^e^. Persia [Merchant].
4. Copy of Bencoolen Gen^ll^. dated 6^th^ ffeb^ry^. 1687/8 sent via Fort St. Ge[orge.]

LIST OF THE COMPANYS PACQUETT TO THE FORT ℔ THE CHANDOS.

1. Companyes Generall to y^e^. ffort dated y^e^. 15^th^. ffebruary 168$\frac{8}{9}$.
2. Com^pas^. Pacquett made up for Bombay containing Viz^t^.
   Comp^as^. Generall to Bombay dated y^e^. 15^th^. ffebruary 168$\frac{8}{9}$.
   Duplicate of the Comp^as^. Generall to D^o^. of 27^th^. August 1688.
   Sent ℔ y^e^. Kempthorn and Diana with a List of Suratt Goods to be provided and prohibited.
   Copy of an order of Court of y^e^. 15^th^. ffebruary 168$\frac{8}{9}$ about shipps graving at Bombay Dry Dock &c^a^.
3. Comp^as^. Pacquett [made up] for the Bay containing Viz^t^.
   Comp^as^. Generall to the Bay dated the 15^th^. ffebruary 168$\frac{8}{9}$.
   Duplicate of the Comp^as^. Generall to the Bay of y^e^. 27^th^. August 1688 with Lists of Bay Goods order'd to be provided & w^t^ prohibited.
4. Copy of the Comp^as^. Generall to y^e^. ffort of y^e^. 11^th^. April 1688.
   Sent ℔ y^e^. Persia Merchant Via Bencoolen.
5. Duplicate of y^e^. Comp^as^. Generall to y^e^. ffort of y^e^. 27^th^. August 1688 w^th^. List of Coast Goods to be sent and what not.
6. Copy of the Comp^as^. Generall to Bencoolen dated y^e^. 4^th^. April 1688. Sent ℔ y^e^ Persia Merch^t^.
7. Copy of the Comp^as^. Generall to y^e^. ffort ℔ y^e^. Defence of y^e^. 25^th^ Jan^ry^ 8$\frac{7}{8}$.
8. Copy of Ditto of y^e^. 6^th^. ffebruary 168$\frac{7}{8}$.
9. Copy of the Comp^as^. Generall to y^e^. ffort of y^e^. 28^th^. September 1687 ℔ the Princess of Denmark.
10. Copy of the Comp^as^. Generall to Bombay of y^e^. 11^th^. Sept^r^. 1688 ℔ Kempthorn.
11. Accomptant Generall's Paper of Observations to v^e^ ffort.
12. D^o^ Accomptants Paper to y^e^ Bay.
13. Invoice of y^e^. Chandos.
14. Bill of Loading Ditto.
15. Charterparty Ditto.
16. Copy of the Armenians Contracts.
17. Order of Court of y^e^. 10^th^ August 1688. prohibiting Bay Goods.
18. Victualling Bill of y^e^. Chandos.
19. Contents of said Ship.
20. List of y^e^. [ffrench] souldiers Entertainment, sent apart ℔ y^e^. Captain.
21. M^rs^. Childs Obligation for her husbands payment of 25^£^. to the Generall President &c^a^.
22. Peti̅con of M^r^ Samuel Charlton.
23. Peti̅con of M^rs^. Anna Peddy.
24. Votes &c^a^. Proceedings of y^e^. Convention in England & other news Papers.
25. Thirty Treatises of y^e^. Vindication of y^e^. Company whereof ten to be sent to y^e^ Bay. put in Box no. (2).
26. List of Permissive trade ℔ y^e^. Chandos sent apart.
27. Twenty [Proclamations] for declaring y^e^. Prince & Princess of Orange King and Queen of England. whereof 17 in box N^o^. (2).

[*Endorsed*] List of the Chandos Pacquett.

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT ST. GEORGE, DATED FEBRUARY 6, 1688. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 9, pp. 1, 2.*]

[*This is a duplicate of the letter on page* 122 *supra.*]

GENERAL LETTER TO BOMBAY, DATED DECEMBER 5, 1688. PER OVERLAND. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 9, pp.* 3, 4.]

LOND^{N}. Y^{E}. 5TH. DECEM^{R}. 1688.

OUR GENERALL & COUNCIL
OF INDIA RESIDING AT BOMBAY.

The foregoeing is Coppy of our Last Since w^{ch}. about a month past y^{e}. Prince of Orange arrived at Dartmouth, wth. a very great ffleet of men of Warr & about 5 or 600 sail of Flybootes & other Merch^{ts}. shipps. On board of w^{ch}. Fleet was a great army of English, Brandenburgers, some Courlanders, Switzers & other fforeigners, wth. a great train of Artillery, all w^{ch}. y^{e}. Prince Landed wth.out interuption, his Maj^{tys}. Fleet being at y^{t}. time to y^{e}. Norward, Upon y^{e}. Princes landing he marched wth. his army to Exeter, declared for y^{e}. Protestant Religion & a free ℙliament, & very many of y^{e}. English Nobility & Gentry flocked in to him wth. Multitudes of y^{e}. Commonality & a great ℙ^{t}. of y^{e}. Kings army, by w^{ch}. y^{e}. Princes army is much increased & they are upon their march for London. His Majesty in Condecention to y^{e}. Princes demands has Issued out a proclamation for a ffree Parliament to assemble at Westminster y^{e} 15 January next & hath sent 3 Lords Viz^{t} y^{e}. L^{d}. Halifax, Nottingham & Godolphin as his Comissioners to treat wth. y^{e}. Prince of all matters tending to a full agreement, w^{ch}. God grant may have y^{e}. desired effect if it be his blessed will.

The Dutch ffleet, thô far superiour at sea, take noe shipps of y^{e} English, neither does y^{e} Princes Army burthen y^{e} Country wth ffree quarter or any other oppression in their march, but pay for all they have, not ℙ^{e}.tending to make any conquest or Warr upon England, but only to settle these 3 Kingdoms upon a right Protestant foundation & upon there Antient lawes & priviledges free from y^{e} danger of Popery or Slavery. This breif acco^{t}. we think necessary to give you overland because it is not easy for us to gett out any ship to you while there is such pressing of Seamen although we hope we may gett out y^{e}. Chandos for Fort S^{t}. George some time this month, she hath laine in y^{e}. River for want of Seamen two or three months already wth. a Comp^{a}. of French Souldiers on board her to our great Charge.

Notwthstanding y^{e}. Relation we have above given you of y^{e}. Princes Invasion & march towards London we incline to believe these Commotions may issue in a firme Peace wth. Holland & a Warr agst. France in y^{e}. Spring, for such seems to bee y^{e}. most Generall inclination of y^{e}. English Protestants of all Qualitys & degrees, w^{ch}, we hint to you for your Governm^{t}. & direction of your Carriage towards those Nations abroad, wth. both w^{ch}. notwthstanding we would have you to continue on termes of Amity untill you have our further order, but especially wth. y^{e}. Dutch, who are now very potent in Europe, being in Conjunction wth. most or all y^{e}. Protestant Princes for defence of their Common Interest & Religion agst. y^{e}. enroachmen^{t}. of y^{e}. French & all other Papists.

But if you have been so fortunate as to secure to y^{e}. English nation y^{e}. Island of Salssett wth. y^{e}. great fforces we sent you, we shall think itt acquired in a good time, and would have you hold itt wth. a strong hand not fearing y^{r}. any Interest, y^{e}. Portugueze or priests can make here shall ever force us to relinguish it, it being

so justly due to us, & you haveing Long since his Majᵗʸˢ. & his most Honoᵇˡᵉ. Privy Councells order to justify yᵉ. enterprise.

The encrease of our Revennue is a matter we must never faile to recommend to your Especiall care. The small free ships you may nowᵗ mitt to loade home wᵗʰ. pepper upon yᵉ. [terms] of yᵉ. Indulgence. Wee have granted unto yᵐ. either for yᵉ. accoᵗ. of their Owners or other private ᵗsons.

In this or the next month we expect severall ships from you wᶜʰ. we hope may bring us an accoᵗ. of yᵉ. ᵗfecting of our peace wᵗʰ. yᵉ. Mogull & of your takeing some considerable purchase from yᵉ. Syammers towards yᵉ. great Debt they owe us, wᶜʰ. you may yᵉ. easier obtaine, because there being already a Warr between yᵉ. ffrench & Dutch in Europe, & great probability of a Warr between England & France next spring, the Syammers are like to have noe aid from any European Nation in India.

The next ship we shall send you is like to be yᵉ. Herbert Capᵗ. Burton Commandʳ. but we think wee shall hardly be able to gett her manned & into yᵉ. Downes before March next, & ᵗ adventure wᵗʰ. her we shall send you yᵉ. Welfare, or some other small shipp, but very litle stock, because we reckon wᵗʰ. yᵉ. purchase we have taken you must needs have of ours a great Estate in your hands soe we recommend you & our affaires to yᵉ. protection of God & rest.

Your Loveing Friends

Jnᵒ. Goodere.	Benjᴬ. Bathurst Govʳ.
Rᴰ. Hutchinson.	Josᴬ. Child Depᵗ.
Hen. Johnson.	George Boun.
Robᵀ. Marshall.	Tho. Boone.
Jnᵒ. Moore.	Wᴹ. Des Boverie.
Tho. Rawlinson.	Josᴬ. Child Junᵉ.
Wᴹ. Sedgwicke.	Tho. Cooke.

General Letter to Bencoolen, dated April 4, 1688. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 9, pp. 5–7.*]

[*This is a duplicate of the letter on page 127 supra.*]

General letter to Fort St. George, dated April 11, 1688, [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 9, pp. 8–9*].

[*This is a duplicate of the letter on page 128.*]

General letter to Fort St. George, dated August 27, 1688. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 9, pp. 11–19*]

Our General of India and
Our President & Councill
of Fort Sᵗ. Georg

London 27ᵀᴴ. August 1688.

1. We are in the first place to answer our late uneasy complaining President & Councills of the 17ᵗʰ. February 168⅞ received by the Successe from Bombay which arrived the 11ᵗʰ. of July last for which God be praised.

2. They complain that our Captains would not pay Anchorage & Powder. We order'd them before they should give us the names of those that refused & we would right ourselves here, was this a great burden or a difficult remedy, & was it not a base neglect not to tell us by the ships themselves the unworthiness of the Commanders in that particular, but to write thus negligently & weakly, six or eight months after the ships departure by a roundabout conveyance, after they might reasonably conclude those ships Accompts were made up here, & their Ballances paid. And no less ridiculous is the remedy they propose, that we should oblige the Commanders in Charter-party hereafter, to pay such Duties as we impose in India, as if our own Laws in India were not of as much force as any Charterparty can be in England, which any man that can read his Majesties Charters may soon see that they are, & we are resolved they shall be equally obey'd by all that serve us.

3. As to the French complaint of taking an enemies ship in Policherry Road, it is frivolous, if they had a Port & Castle there to protect it, the case would be otherwise, But where they have only a Flag & few servants resident in another Princes Dominions, we shall never fear to take our enemies for their threatnings, or any other Nations in Amity with his Majestie in Europe, no not if such enemies ship should have a French or Dutch Pass, & wear Dutch or French Colours, or have some Dutch or French men on Board, & if in such a case any Nation fall upon you, or for any other such like cause, We would have you to take the first and best opportunity you can to right & revenge us & yourselves on them, without expecting further orders from England, for God be praised, we are not now in such a posture in India, that we need to sneak or put up [with] palpable injuries from any Nation whatsoever in India, & with Gods assistance we hope allwaies to keep ourselves in such a formidable posture of defence. But we would have you do no wrong or violence to any in Amity with us, we would not wrong a worme, JUST AND STOUT is the Motto we hope to deserve & wear, but in all manner of civil respects We would have you abate nothing that's due to all or any of our friends in India, especially to the French Nation.

4. President Yale and Councils letters next we shall [anim]advert of the 29th September & 13th October to our Generall & Councill of India. The designe for Tenassary we highly approve, but the force sent thither was a great deal too little. We heartily wish they had sent the Williamson, with the Pearl Friget, & if you have that place taken in fair Warfare, we would have you defend and secure it against all Nations, with all the power & force you have of shipping or souldiers; fortify it speedily & substantially. There being no doubt, but at ast the King of Siam wearyed with the war will agree to let us keep it with the Customs, & all other prerogatives Royall as we do Bombay; which you may make out to be clearly his own interest, & to let all goods go from that place through his Countrey to Siam, for by that means if the French have his Forts upon Siam River, himselfe will hold the ballance, & can favour either passage, French or English, as by their good carriage or serviceableness, they shall merit from him.

5. They did exceeding well in supplying Bencoolen, and Indrapoora, being places of mighty consequence to this Kingdom, & therefore we will preserve them, if we can, from all the power and fraud of the Dutch, & we are well pleased that our new President & Councils notions have jumpt so well with others in the particulars mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs, hoping it may be a good Omen, & that they will understand us better hereafter, & we them, than we could in the times of President Gyfford, & the two Agents preceeding him.

6. We enjoyne you to take the same Duties for granting Passes to all or any ships whatsoever sailing in India that are establisht at Bombay, viz^{t}. one Rupee ℔ Ton, & that our chief Customer, or first Commissioner of our Customs at the Fort, do keep & transmit yearly to us a punctuall acco^{t}: thereof. with the like to yourselves.

7. Copies of our Contracts with the Armenians we send you inclosed, and desire & strictly enjoyn you to perform every part & Article thereof that they may have no cause to complain of the least discountenance or discouragement from you in any respect, It may be if we had not been in a war when we made that agreement, we should have made it somewhat more streight, & a little harder upon them in a few particulars, But since it is done, we would inviolably keep our faith & promise to them, and hereafter when your wars are quite over, and Peace & our Trade not only restored, but well settled, & also this new course of their trade for Europe &c^{a}: We may with their own consent make some alterations for the better, or at least restrain part of the Bengall Trade wholly to the Company, but for the present, & untill you have other orders from us, we would have you deprive them of nothing they can fairly claime by our Contracts, but on the contrary cherish & countenance them all that possibly you can, for we shall esteem those who are kindest to them, to be our best servants, because undoubtedly if they be not discouraged, this foundation which we have happily laid, may grow to a famous superstructure, & much augment the English Navigation, as well as his Majesties Customes, & discover a multitude of new goods, that will turn to a great advantage, And hereafter we may oblige that whole Nation to load no goods in India &c^{a}; but upon English shipping; They are an innocent harmless people, that will not be apt to contend or plead Law with us, & are certainly sober, frugall & very wise in all the Commodities & places of India, & when they cohabit with you, & you are well acquainted with them, you may make great use of them for the Comp^{a}:, & for yourselves in some places where we have no factoryes.

8. Let them alwaies have Tonnage for their goods, on our homeward bound ships on the terms we have agreed, & give a strict charge to all Commanders to use them kindly in their passages for Europe, or elsewhere & allwaies know of them as soon as you can, what Tonnage each year they designe for Europe, that you may appoint such a proportionable number of ships to return, as may be sufficient to bring home yearly all their goods, as well as our own.

9. We have considered of the fruitless charge of imploying a paultry inconsiderable Vakeel at the Mogulls Court, who spent us more money then would have obliged the Mufti, or high Priest, & five or six potent Courtiers that allwayes attend near the Mogulls person whereever he is, which we understand is allwaies the Armenians way of doeing their business at Court with small expence & much more effect, than hireing a poor Vakeel, that dare not speak to such great men as you may correspond with by letters, & in them write what you think, & send your Letters by Armenians or your own Peons; concerning which we desire you to confer with Cojah Panous Calendar when he arrives with you, or with his son in the mean time, & with some others of the most substantiall, knowing, and experienced of the Armenian Nation.

10. If you find this designed Imbarcation of the Armenians for Europe should prove bulky & considerable, there will be a necessity you should build more convenient Warehouses, for containing their goods in security, as well before they are shipped for England as for such as shall be landed from England before they are taken away or shipt for any other place, & for such Warehouse you must impose some Duty by the Bale or Ton, lying in our Warehouses by the Week, as will in a few years reimburse us our charge of building them, & the charge of collecting the money, we having, as you will observe in our contracts, made no provision concerning this Duty, because we could not compute what it might amount to.

11. Raw silk of all sorts is exceedingly [fal]len in price by reason of great quantities of thrown silk imported from Italy, & therefore you must order none thereof to be sent us from Bengall, except you can have twenty ℔. Ct. abated of the old rates.

12. We would have you to erect a Post Office, that may bring in the Comp^{a}: a considerable Revenue according to such directions as we have given in our

Letter to Bombay, of which wee have sent a copy to our Generall, which he will communicate to you.

13. Mr. Calendar, the Armenian before mentioned, having been the good instrument of making this agreement for his Nation, We have granted to him on the terms of the inclosed contract, the sole Trade of Garnets, which you are duely to observe.

14. Our old store of Callicoes &c^{a}. wears out apace, and therefore you must now send us all you can, according to our list sent you herewith.

The Civil Servants to be constantly trained in the use of arms.

15. Though our war be over you must continue to train & exercise in Arms, all our Factors, Writers, and English servants of all Degrees from the highest to the lowest, according to our former orders, because we must for ever hereafter keep ourselves a Martiall Nation in India.

16. During our Generalls absence in Bengall or at Bombay, or where ever else he shall be, we would have you follow his orders in all things (not repugnant to our own orders) with the same care & effect as if they were subscribed by the Governour or Deputy & thirteen of the Committees, such confidence wee have as well in his prudence as in his fidelity.

Ships tonnage.

17. You will observe in our new Charterparties, that there is a Covenant our ships shall carry the same tonnage from Port to Port in India they are let for here, Of which pray mind & admonish all our Captains & advise the Company particularly what Tonnage they fall short every Voyage, that we may defalk our dammage from their Owners out of their ffreight, which accompt of all ships abroad pray fail not to give the Company by every conveyance, And to ease yourselves therein, you may appoint some person of Factors degree to make up the Tonnage of every such ship every voyage, & give you a bcoke of them particularly so made up to remit with your packet to the Comp^{a}.

18. Whenever our Generall shall be absent from the Fort, we would have you send him copies of all Letters you write to us, that as he has the oversight of all our affairs in India, he might likewise have particular knowledge of all transactions in every part of India, as the Dutch Generall has at Batavia of all their affairs.

19. Send us by every ship an exact List of all sorts & quantities of Europe Goods you have lying by you at the Fort, and all subordinate Factories to that Presidency, But keep [at] the Fort of Mergee, if we have it alwaies, our Magazines and trust as little of our Estate as you can in Bengall, or in any subordinate Factories, which is the surest way to preserve our Estates & our servants from the affronts of those Governours.

20. Its [now] the 6th August, & we have yours of the 21th January by the French ships, which we are sorry to tell you gives us little satisfaction, for you have been very weak & unhappy in the management of all our political affaires. The force you sent to Mergee was too little, as you may see we feared before by the foregoing paragraphs of this Letter, But that which almost astonisheth us to see, is that you should have so little sense & understanding of the Armenians letter, as not to observe that the Mogull & all his great Princes were in paine to have Peace with us, & that it was not your complements, nor our money, which you vainly wasted in sending up your Vakeel & Mounsr. Charden, nor theirs, or either of their sollicitation nor your Letters, but our successe on the other side of India, the want of trade, & the misery & cry of the Mogulls poor subjects, occasioned by our war, that were the potent advocates & procurers of our Peace, & therefore you might have spared our purse in that unnecessary message, or rather have spent it in makeing another strong Bastion at our Fort; for 'its onely strength that must preserve and better our Peace.

21. Your sending so great a sum of money to Bengall may turne to our advantage and prove well & seasonable, but we must note to you, that wee are not so dull sighted as not to observe that you served your own & private friends

ends in that likewise, because at that time by reason of the wars & dearness of Diamonds, & low rates of Peices of 8/8 Ryalls, You knew not w^t. to do with your silver, but croud it upon the Comp^a. at a dear interest, whereas had you in that case taken up that money for the Comp^a. at 6 ℔ cent ℔ Annum, it had been a more disinteressed kindness to the Comp^a. & yet all that interest paid the Owners of the mony would have been a clear profit to them, who at that time knew not what else to do with it.

22. But we will not so give over our hopes of having a fortifyed settlement in Bengall, & coining Rupees &c^a., in our own Townes, & therefore have writ a letter to the Mogull, which we desire our Generall to cause to be presented to him, & prosecuted in the cheapest manner he can, wherein wee thinke it may not be amiss to let the Mogull, or at least his great men, know what a vast expence we were at with your former Vakeel & M^r. Charden's message, & make that the ground of your sparing in yo^r. future Addresses, & use all the arguments you can invent, besides those mentioned in our own letter, to possess the Mogull, that it is the interest & safety of his own subjects that we should coine our own mony, & be strongly posted in Bengall to defend the Ganges & repair our ships in case the Dutch or French should brake with his subjects, which is the more necessary in case the French are setled at Mergee, which we cannot yet believe.

23. It's great folly to go faintly, weakly, or slowly, about any warlike affair in India, as our people did in Bengall, slowly & you weakly at Mergee; when ever you go about any such affair again, do it roundly, secretly, & strongly at once, & keep as close as possibly you can to our orders, as our Generall did at Bombay, & then it's ten to one with Gods blessing but you will succeed to the honour of your Countrey & ours & your own satisfaction.

24. Trust as little of our estates or your own as you can possibly in the Mogulls Countrey untill you see what he will do upon those two Articles, concerning which we have now writ him, for if we ever differ again, whatever we may loose by it, we will never give our servants such long warning in all places (since they now made such ill use of it) as we did before the beginning of the last warr.

25. Keep Madrass strong & put all our former orders about the improvement of our Revenew in that place into full & effectuall execution, for we will never make any difference of persons in payment of Customes or any other Duties, no not though our Governour or Deputy Governour here or any of the Committee themselves, were concerned, while we sweep our own Doors we may the better force others to keep theirs clean.

26. We hope you will not hereafter so constantly allarm us with unnecessary complaints & groundless lamentations & empty objections against our most prudent constitutions, for in stead of weakening our hands in our government, which some of you have been wicked enough to aime at thereby, you have but discovered your own weakness, & the solidity & rationality (not to say the perfect prudence) of all our designes, in case they had been as well prosecuted on that side of India as they were designed by us and mañaged by our Generall on the other side of India. And yet notwithstanding all miscarriages, nẽglects, & breach of orders that hath been committed, It's no small honour to our Nation that we have adventured upon a war with two such great Kings (which our Predecessors durst not have looked angryly upon) and mended our termes in all places by y^e. Effect of our just armes, for which Gods holy name be blessed & praised for ever.

27. If the French are really settled at Mergee, we would not begin a warr with them for the conquering of that place, but rather wait a little to see what the Mogull will do upon our Letter, & our Generalls application to him for a fortified place for our shipping in Bengall, & if that failes, we cannot doubt but you may obtaine a proper place for that purpose in the King of Raccans Countrey, on his side of the River leading to Chittegam, where our great ships may ride

near the shoar in safety, and a Dock or Docks may be made for repairing them, & if this can be done in a convenient place, where in case of a rupture with the Moors or any Europe Nation hereafter, we may have the Raccaneers to friend, wee think it may be better than Negrais, which is totally unfurnished of Provisions & Inhabitants, but we have no such perfect knowledge of those places as we had of Chittegam & therefore must leave this matter intirely to your discretion.

28. We will pursue the war against the King of Siam untill we have full satisfaction for all our dammages, & that wicked fellow Phalkon be removed out of place, or suffer according to his deserts, & when that is done we know the Trade of that place is not worth a farthing, notwithstanding the florishes you will find about it in your generall Letters writ us three or four years past, when Phalkon was the darling of President Gyfford & Council, & he flattered them as much till he had not without too much countenance from them got a strength of English ffugitives about him, & their own as well as the Comp^{as}. Estate in his hands, & then he shewed himselfe in his propper colours, which we did, & they might have discerned before with half an eye under his painted Coat, had not avarice & prejudice to our new conduct (as they called it) clouded their sight. And therefore if some of you have been great loosers by Siam, you have none to complaine against but yourselves, & may see your sin in your punishment, for we are not at the charge of this war to procure satisfaction for any of your losses, but only for the Comp^{a}., who bear all the charge of it.

29. Your sending M^{r}. Hodges to Siam was totally without our order, who left the composeing that war only to our Generall & Councill of Bombay, & in as much as you sent M^{r}. Hodges, we know as well as by other instances while he was before at Siam, that you thought him the most acceptable man to Phalkon, & therefore we like him the worse, & will have no more to do with him, but do hereby dismiss him our service.

30. We wish well to all free Merchants trades at the Fort, but you must not make the Comp^{as}. subservient to theirs, but theirs to the Comp^{as}, nor so mix the concernes of both, that when there is any occasion of expence, the Comp^{a}, shall be at the intire charge, & they reap half or the greatest share of the benefit as in the case of sending up Mouns^{r}. Charden, if there was any cause at all for it, it was your particular Diamond Trade, which Trade should have been at the whole charge of his Journey, for he must be stark blind that cannot see as S^{r}. John Charden & Panous Calendar your Armenians Correspondents here have been forced to confess, that the substance of your Armenian Coje Abanus letter, was directed by the Mogull himself & seen, & every sentence corrected by his Chiefe Ministers themselves, the real truth being, his subjects cannot bear a war with the English for 12 m^{os}. together without starveing & dyeing by thousands for want of worke to purchase Rice, not singly for want of our Trade, but because by our war we obstruct their trade with all the Easterne Nations, which is ten times as much as ours & all European Nations put together, & therefore we conclude Fort S^{t}. George is now much more worth & secure to us then ever it was in the meaner King of Gulcondah's time, for he had little at sea for us to revenge ourselves upon, but now if new injuries should be offered us, we have a fat enemy to deal with, from whom something is to be got to bear our charges; & therefore wee conclude that the Mogulls Governour will never give us fresh provocations, nor deny you S^{t}. Thoma, or any thing else you shall reasonably and fairly request of him, While we keep Bombay in that posture we have resolved, & now after all the Scornes of Interlopers, & the English wits of India (as they account themselves) we dare appeal to the most malicious of our enemies whether this new conduct, as they scornefully called it in their cups & their meetings, hath not with Gods blessing reduced the Affairs & interest of the English Nation in India into a better and more formidable posture for defence, than ever they were in since the first Charter in Queen ELIZABETH's time; But no great good was ever attained in this world, without throws and convulsions, and therefore we must not grudge at what is past.

31. Least we should be over crowded with Bay goods belonging to private persons as we were formerly with Cuttanees, We have by an order of Court inclosed withdrawne the Indulgence formerly granted to all English during the war for bringing home of Bay goods upon any ship or ships that shall depart Gravesend from and after the first day of this instant August 1688.

32. Of stick-lack such as you have last sent us buy all you can get, for we never had any of that Commodity from the Fort but turned to a very good account, though we have had loss often by what sent us from the Bay & Surrat, but yours was we suppose of Pegu, which is the very best kind, & if you cannot get sufficient of that send us however twenty or thirty Tons of the best you can procure of any other sort (besides that we have writ for from Surrat.)

33. You haveing now a great Trade for China may probably buy Green Ginger at the rates it formerly came to us from Bantam, viz^{t}. six Dollars ℔ Pecull, which when you can meet with if you find it good, you may send us three or four hundred Jarrs thereof.

34. Though our gross insipid Cassia Lignum lyeing by us is of no value, there is a sort of small Quill Cassia Lignum tied up in Bundles, the Bundle about the thickness of a mans wrist & about a foot or 16 Inches long, the sticks cut of even length & each of them sticks or [b]arks not thicker than a Swan's quill, which grows plentifully in the Eastern Islands, & we use to buy cheap formerly at Bantam & Batavia at about ten Dollars ℔ Pecull, that is allwaies a good Commodity if you can buy any of that from any private ships or sloops that Trade in Borneo or any of the Islands to the Eastward of Borneo where that Commodity may be had for the labour of cutting and drying it, you may send us ten or twenty Tons thereof.

35. We have been very lately alarmed with the fears of a present Dutch warr, & what may be y^{e}. issue is yet uncertain, However, it's fit for you to be alwayes upon your guard, and to give order to y^{e}. Commanders of all our ships to keep their men on board, & their ships in a constant posture of Defence, and if a perfect breach should ensue you shalbe further acquainted wth. it by this Conveyance.

So commending you & our Affairs to the Guidance & protection of the Almighty We remain.

Your Loving ffriends.

FFRA: GOSFRIGHT.
JOS^{A}. CHILD.
R^{T}. HUTCHINSON.
THOMAS BOONE.
W. SEDJWICK.
T. GOODERE.

BEN: BATHURST Gov^{r}.
JOS^{A}: CHILD Dep^{ty}.
CHARDOS BARON OF SUD[E].
JA: EDWARD.
JOHN MOORE.
THO: CHAMBER. [*not in T.O. copy.*]
THO: RAWLINSON.
JOSEPH HERNE. [*not in T.O. copy.*]
NATH^{L}. TENCHE.
HEN: JOHNSON.
WILL^{M}. DES BOUVERIE.
RO: MARSHALL.
R. HUTCHINSON JUN^{R}.

LIST OF COAST GOODS TO BE PROVIDED FOR THE YEAR 1690.

	Pieces.
Longcloth white ordinary of all sorts	10,0000
Send as many as you can of N°. 1 & 2. made at the ffort as also those sorts made at Conimero N°. C 1 & 2 & N°. C D.9. Those by the Josia & Shrewsbury were not so good as formerly selling 3^{d} a Piece cheap^{r}. send none of N°. 1 & 2. from Codalore & Porto Novo if can make up y^{e}. Complement them, for they being stiffned so much wth. their starch are out of esteem here.	
Ditto brown...	20,000
Encrease all you can in y^{e}. brown cloth from Vizagapatam & Conimero it selling better than y^{t}. made at y^{e}. ffort.	
Ditto blew	30,000
Get as many of this sort as you can made at the ffort N°. D, next them y^{e}. N° C D from Conimero make y^{e} best advance Give Particular charge to Codolore & Porto Novo, that they see y^{e}. Blew cloth be well cured before Packing, for being pack'd up wett it moulds and spotts, w^{ch}. much depreciates it here.	
Take especiall care that y^{e}. Wrappers be strong & not rotten as formerly, whereby y^{e} Comp^{a}. have suffer'd much loss.	
We wonder you can't get them as well wrapper'd & Baled, as y^{e}. Blew Cloth from Conimero.	
Much of yo^{r}. Blew Cloth has not y^{t}. esteem here as otherwise it would by reason of its ill dying of which take care to amend for y^{e}. future, and y^{t}. it be died of a good full good Colour & even wthout Rowes.	
Longcloth fine to be only of those sorts made at y^{e}. ffort and Madapollam	10,000
Those y^{t}. came ℔ y^{e}. Kempthorne N°. P F 1. 2. 3. were very well liked of, therefore advance in them all you can.	
Sallampores ordinary of all sorts	60,000
Send as many as Possible from y^{e}. ffort N°. 3. & R. 3 & R 3+ from Codolore as also C. 3 & C. 6 from Conimero, but send as few as possible N°. 7. 8. 9 from y^{e}. ffort or P.1. 2. 3. from Madapollam.	
ffrom Madapollam they have been much to blame to send us so bad Wrapp^{rs}. & Gunnyes & very negligent in keeping up y^{e}. Merch^{ts}. to y^{e}. full breadths & lengths of y^{e}. Sallampores, They holding scarce 15 y^{ds}. w^{ch}. should be full 16 nor are they full yard wide as ought to be.	
Ditto brown	6,000
Neckcloths of 16. to a Piece to be yard & half long.	5,000
Or at least ell Long, but let not any of Ell long be mix'd wth. those of yard & half Long, neither send any of Ell long on any Pretence whatsoever	
Ditto single of y^{e}. same sort wth. those sent S^{r}. Josia Child by y^{e}. Josia	200,000
D°. White striped	60,000
Take care y^{t}. they may be made of good Cloth & well twisted at y^{e}. Ends, w^{ch}. are much better esteem'ed here than when shagged & will sell better.	
Ginghams broad white of 40 Covids long	20,000
Be very careful y^{t}. they be well cured before packing or otherwise they will rot, & have been often return'd on y^{e}. Comp^{as}. hands.	
If you could procure them to be made finer tho' at some small Charge y^{e}. Advance in sale w^{d}. answer y^{t}. Cost.	

	Pieces.
Keep them up to their full breadths of yard & ½ wide & not to be scarce 1 y^{d}. $\frac{7}{17}$ as formerly.	
Ginghams brown such as came by y^{e}. Kempthorne being somew^{t}. better than ordinary	1,000
Ginghams white such as y^{e}. Dutch have of 4 Threads, or as We had in Agent ffoxcrofts time double threaded both wayes ...	1,000
Izzarees such as came by the Kempthorn.	
But take especiall care they be kept up to y^{t}. Goodness	10,000
Allejaes to be very bright Colours	15,000
Let them be of y^{e}. sort N^{o}. M. 1 ℔ the Kempthorne with great regard to their well sorting.	
Saderuncheraes to be well pack'd & good bright Colours ...	5,000
Sacerguntees to be very good Cloth & bright Colours	5,000
Romalls Cotton of that sort from Metchlepatam M. 1. of 16 in a Piece such as came by the Kempthorne but of no other sort w^{t}. soever	50,000
Take Particular care y^{t}. all yo^{r}. red sorts of Goods be very good bright Colours, which will much advance their Price here. Have a great regard also to the well curing them for want of w^{ch}. they spot in y^{e}. Bales.	
Sailcloth to be bought 40 ℔ Cent cheaper ½ white ½ brown ...	100,000
The sail Cloth from Vizagapatam would sell much bett^{r}. both brown & White than that from Metchlepatam if you could procure it to be full yard wide the Care of which We do especially recommend to you, because it would find a speedy Markett here, but as it is now but ¾ y^{d}. wide The Comp^{a}. will be great Loosers by it, having sold very little these 2 or 3 years.	
Therefore send none of ¾ y^{d}. wide on any pretence w^{t}. soever.	
Sheets such as came by y^{e}. Amoy Merchant. Pair...	1,000
But if you buy them 20 ℔ Cent cheaper. Pair	2,000
Cumsaloes to be kept to their full Goodness	3,000
Commeeses such as came last by y^{e}. Kempthorn	6,000
Dimmities fine if can be bought 20 ℔ C^{t}. cheaper than those by the Kempthorne	1,000
Dungarees if to be bought cheaper than formerly sent	20,000
Dimmities superfine to be bought 20 ℔ C^{t}. cheaper than those by the Kempthorne	400
Else send none.	
Bettellees plain send not one Piece of any sort upon any terms or Pretence w^{t}.soever	send none.
Bettellees strip'd made at y^{e}. ffort such as you sent by Kempthorne	10,000
D^{o}. fflower'd such as We wrote for by y^{e}. W^{m}.son to be made at y^{e}. ffort	4,000
Callowaypoose send us	1,000
But observe in y^{e}. Provision of these y^{e}. Order about y^{e}. red Goods before.	
Percallaes send Us of y^{e}. sort N^{o}. 1 & 2. from Coddolore and Porto Novo	1,000
But of no other Numbers.	
Pepper white & black send all you can procure	All you can.
Pegu sticklack send all you can procure.	All you can.
Vide y^{e}. Comp^{as}. Letter accompanying this.	
Green Ginger if to be bought at 6 Doll^{rs}. ℔ Pecull send Jarrs ...	3 or 400
Quill Cassia Lignum, according to Directions in y^{e}. said Letter send ten or twenty Tons ... ... Tons.	10 or 20

	Pieces.
Shirts & shifts formerly sent us from y^e^. ffort, We were unworthily cheated in, they were 40 ℔ C^t^. too dear, & basely made up by y^e^. Taylers, as if y^e^. whole mannagement of y^t^. busyness had been purposely design'd to discourage y^e^. Comp^a^. in trading in y^t^. Commodity, but We hope now We have a more sincere Councill to y^e^. Comp^as^. Interest We shall have our Orders more justly & Punctually observ'd, & therefore We are willing to make a further Experiment of y^t^. Commodity because, if We gain little at pñt by selling of them so cheap as We have, yet We have observed y^t^. their cheapness, have introduced the Wearing of Callicoe in Shifts, and therefore We desire you to send Us of sail Cloth ... ... Shifts.	50,000
And of long Cloth ... ... Shifts.	50,000
To be strong & substantially sow'd for poor Peoples wear.	
Dimmities Diapers. { to be sent according to directions in y^e^. Negative List of Coast Goods herewith sent, of each	P^s^. 500

A List of Coast Goods of which none are to be sent till further Order.

Send no fine Sallampores of any sort w^t^.soever, nor any above 5^s^. ℔ p^s^.

Bettellees of all sorts send none, although we have absolutely prohibited year after year sending us any Podawetz, Cummum Gulconda, Oringall.

Rowalue & Gunapore Bettellees, yet you still persist to disobey o^r^. Orders to our great loss, w^ch^. if you do will be charged to yo^r^. Acco^t^.

Chints send none.

Diapers send none, except you can get them 40 ℔ C^t^. cheaper.

Dimmities send none except you can buy them 40 ℔ Cent cheaper.

Goacon Cherulas send none.

Moorees send none.

Percallaes send none of any sort except y^e^. number 1 & 2 from Cuddalore and Porto Novo.

Paintings fine, send none.

Pallampores send none.

Succatums send none.

Stockings Cotton send none from y^e^. ffort.

Salpicadoes send none.

Send no Neckcloths of Twelve to a Peece.

Cotton Romalls send none of any sort except y^e^. sort of M. 1 of sixteen to a Peece from Metchlepatam.

Send no sail cloth of ¾ yards wide on any pretence whatsoever.

Dimities & Diapers would be a comodity of great expence for wastcoats & Table linen if you could buy them soe fine strong & cheap that we could be savers by them which we cañot apprehend impossible if you had the same care for the publick int^st^. of your Country as we have, a great deale of money being yearly drained out of this Kingdom to France for those two Comodities, with which the Kingdome might be served at halfe the price if we could bring them as cheap & good in proporcõn as other Callicoes bear to other flaxen Liñen. However, for a further Tryall send us 500 peices of each sort upon the best termes you can procure them. Notwithstanding what's written above in this Negative Lis^t^

GENERAL LETTER TO BENGAL, DATED AUGUST 27, 1688. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 9, pp. 24—32.*]

LONDON 27TH. AUGST. 1688.

OUR AGENT & COUNCIL
IN BENGALL.

We have with great impatience read your Letter of the 26th. of August 1687 to our President & Council of the Fort, & are grieved to see how you trifled away time upon frivolous pretences, lost the season of going to Chittegam, & engaged our Forces in unhealthfull places to the loss of the lives of many of our worthy Countrey men, & to the irreparable dishonour of our Nation, & the ruin of our trade in Bengall, if our worthy Generall on the other side of India had not steadily pursued our orders, & thereby recovered the reputation to our King & Nation which you lost by disobeying or neglecting our orders.

It is a vanitie for you to fancy that your prudence or subtilty procured at last those goods terms you obtain'd of Abdull Sumud when you & our forces were by your errors aforesaid reduced to that low condition you were in upon the Island Higiley, It was not your wit or contrivance but God Allmighty's good providence which hath allwaies graciously superintended the affairs of this Compa. particularly by the Success he was pleased to give our Generall on Surrat side in takeing in effect all the Moors Mocho Bussorah & Persian Fleets which were of a prodigious value & caused a dead stand of Trade in all the Mogulls Dominions, for that neither Banians, Armenians, Egyptians, Turks or Persians would give out any Money to the numerous poor people of India to set them on work, nor indeed had they wherewith to do it, because all their effects were actually or in danger of being carried into Bombay. This fatall disappointment of the whole Trade of India caused insurrections & an universall lamentation & cry not only of the Natives but of the other Nations aforesaid Peace with the English or we must all starve, & this caused the Mogull himself out of his known humane benign disposition & love to mankind to send Cossids & Dogchuckys[1] in hast to Bengall & all places to make up the Breach, & one of his greatest Princes to Surrat in such manner & with such express instructions that the English should remaine contented.

From hence we do rationally conclude against the opinion of our Agent Mr. Charnock that if you had immediately, according to the King our sovereigns orders & our own, proceeded directly for Chittegam while our Forces were strong & vigorous the Mogull would have consented to our holding & keeping that place in amity with him, notwithstanding we know it is very dear to him, & would have granted you the fairer & the better terms, But since it hath pleased God that by his Providence overrules all things in the world as well small as great to determine this warfare otherwise then we designed, we are not now willing suddenly after the pacification to enter into any new warfare with the Mogull, but to hold all his Governours & people strictly to the terms he hath agreed with us, & never to suffer any fresh injuries from them, for which purpose we desire you to make us as speedy & full returns as possibly you can of our great stock in your hands & hasten in all our old debts keeping in the Countrey as small a stock as is possible, for certainly it was our g[reat] Estate lodged in their Countrey which gave them the confidence to abus[e us at] the rate they did formerly, together with an opinion infused into their [minds by] the wicked Interlopers & that Faction, that whatever injuries they did us [we] were so fond of their Trade that we would never revenge it, or so poor and impotent that we could not do it.

We have now wrote a respectfull Letter to the Mogull & intrusted our generall with the mannagement of it, of which letter you have a copy enclosed, whereby you will observe our endeavours to mend your faults, & obtain that by

1 *Dog Chouckies* or *Dāk-chokies* are men, very swift of foot, kept ready at posts about ten miles distant from one another, on the high-roads throughout the Mogul's dominions. *Hobson-Jobson*, Page 300.

fair means, which you neglected when you had swords in your hands; it will be your parts to advise our Generall what place may be best for our shipping, & may most reasonably be requested of the Mogull, who we doubt not but will allwaies keep his Peace with us, while we maintain our Trade at Bombay, & keep that place in such a strong posture of Defence as we have resolved to do with Gods assistance.

You must keep your Picars & all that deal with you under the same subjection[2] that the Dutch do, & not spare the Chawbuck where there is cause for it, for it is a most egregious folly to think that people bred up in slavery can be mannaged without severity.

Though our Agent be extreamly to blame in the matters before recited & it may be for want of use is not so fitly qualified for Martiall affairs, yet we will believe he is an honest man & being so will double his care & diligence in makeing amends in the course of our Trade for the errors he committed in Warfare, & therefore we will bear him out in his command, & in the place wee have set him, & we require all persons of what degree soever under him, & all other English in Bengall to pay him that duty & respect, which is due to the Chief of their Nation in that Countrey dureing the absence of our generall, who may in due time visit those Coasts, & we doubt not will find our Agent in all Mercantile affairs deserveing that trust we have committed to his charge.

We have writ our Generall President & Council of Fort St. George to supply you with a competent number of Factors & Writers, & we intend to send you by the next ships ten hospitall Boys for Writers, which we would have you keep strictly to their Duties as the Dutch do & for willfull neglects or faults to punish them or any others under our Agent & Councill in the same manner, we haveing no less authority from our Sovereign than the Dutch have from their Sovereigns to keep all that serve us in due obedience to such superiors as we have set over them.

Raw silk of Bengall is much fallen in price, & therefore you must get at least 20 ℔ C^{t}. abated of the old rates, or otherwise send us very little, & not any at all of any other sort letter or number than what is contained in our list of which take speciall notice.

Your Taffaties[3] are a noble Commodity, of which you can never send us enough being well made & well bought.

Your clear Shellack of Cassimbuzar is likewise a sure Commodity, be thoughtfull & industrious to procure & send up all you can thereof, but send us no Turmerick on any terms whatsoever, for we have enough allready by us to serve Europe for four or five years.

For other particulars of Commodities we referr you to our list or memoriall for that purpose, which we have drawn with great circumspection, & would have you pursue it with more care & punctuality than your Predecessors did.

This ship the Chandos carryes no stock expressly directed for your place, but a considerable stock for the Fort, so much whereof as our Generall President &c^{a}. may think you need, we have ordered them to send down to you, & when we have full advices from you we shall determine what more to send you directly or by way of Fort S^{t}. George.

We would have you be restless in your requests to the Nabob for a Mint att Hughly, but not to spend our money at that Durbar so profusely as formerly, But haveing wrote our Generall President &c^{a}. at the Fort more fully concerning this matter, we hope our Generall may procure better terms, & with less expence from the Mogull himself than you can from the Nabob.

Your seizing & sending up Davis to the Fort was one of the wisest & best of your actions, & we commend you highly for it tho' by a mistake in Judgement our

[1] From Hind: *paikār*, a retail-dealer, an intermediate dealer or broker. *Hobson-Jobson*, Page 703.
[2] A whip. *Hobson-Jobson*, Page 185.
[3] The word comes from *P. tāftan*, 'to twist, spin' and it applies to plain woven silks. *Hobson-Jobson*, page 703.

President &c^{a}. blamed you for it, keep up our power, & your own, & you preserve your honour & all things will go well, but where the reins of government are slack nothing can prosper.

Look in a most especiall manner to the sorting of our goods that is the life of our Trade in any failure of that kind we would have you never pardon the Offender but turn him instantly out of our service of what ever quality or Degree he be, & trust not wholly to any others in that matter, but see all you can & as often as you can possibly with your own eyes, & what you cannot see yourself by reason of other business or distance of place, examine afterwards yourself by opening some of the Bales, & inspecting the quality of the goods, & where you find persons just & faithfull as M^{r}. Peachie was at Maulda cherish & encourage them, & those you find have cheated or abused the Company, as Pownsett & Harvy did at Dacca secure their Estates to make the Comp^{a}. satisfaction in India because if they escape home with their ill gotten goods little is to be recovered of them without tedious suits in Chancery, which we have neither leisure nor are a constitution fit to follow & solicite.

Continue to press the Nabob to reedify our Factory at Maulda in as good condition as it was formerly, & to performe strictly all the other Articles of their agreement with you.

M^{r}. Trenchfeild was comeing home before the late warr began, & wee have heard holds no good correspondence with our Agent M^{r}. Charnock, & wee have paid so dear for your Factions formerly, that although we have a respect for M^{r}. Trenchfeild we dare suffer no new factions to bud or sprout up against our Agent, whom since we dare trust in the head of our business in Bengall we are resolved to trust him throughly having reaped excellent fruit from that method in the great confidence we have reposed in our Generall S^{r}. John Child, & therefore we do hereby discharge M^{r}. Trenchfeild from our service at present giveing him leave to return for England, or reside at Fort St. George in the [qua]lity of a free Merchant at his own discretion.

And we have return'd M^{r}. Ley to be third of our Council of the Bay, [and Sorter] of our goods at Hugly or at Cassimbuzar, at either place where our Agent [shall] think he may do us the best service, he being a conscientious faithfull [man] that may be trusted, we have likewise appointed him to be our Judge Advocate in Bengall with two such Assistants as our Agent shall appoint to join with him in the execution of that imployment, for which purpose we have given him a Commission, which He will produce to you, & in case of his death, which God forbid, We appoint such person provisionally to succeed in that Office of Judge of our Admiralty Court as you our Agent & Council shall direct, & we have further directed him to be our Register of Assurances according to the rules & limitations contain'd in a paper sent you apart with this Packet, which you are exactly to conform unto.

You must likewise appoint some proper person to be our Attorney Generall who is to exhibit complaints to our Court of Admiralty against all offenders as he shall be directed by you after the manner used in Bombay of which M^{r}. Ley hath seen something here, & will see more of the methods of our said Court & Officers belonging thereunto at Fort S^{t}. George as he returns to you by that place.

We have directed him likewise to bring you from the Fort an abstract of all the receipts of our Revenue there, that you may collect the same there so far as reasonably you can in which our Agent will do us a singular service, and if you can't reach up to the Pattern of the Fort in regard of the different circumstances of that place you may however Raise what Revenues the Dutch do in Bengall after their methods, & more we will not desire of you.

We hope you will so mannage that place or Town of Ulaburreah which you ave articled for that it may in time become a famous & well governed English

Colony, & render unto us & our successors a considerable revenue, which may go far towards defraying the charge of our sloops in the Ganges.

The late dispatches of our ships from the Bay in former times has been an unconceivable dammage to us, we hope our Agent now he is delivered from those perplexities he was formerly engaged in, & from the controul of his secret & peevish enemies of his own Council, & the underhand dark & malicious suggestions & designes of the Interlopers to obstruct the course of his & our honest servants affairs will be in condition to demonstrate that he is a man of business & dispatch in all Mercantile affairs as well as of Justice & fidelity to his Employers.

Keep all our servants in strict obedience to our Rules & to a sober vertuous & frugall conversation, & now you are at some ease read over again many of our former generall Letters, in which probably you may find some usefull instructions or precepts, which we may now forget to remind you of, and you might overlook in your late confusions.

We are allready overstockt with Petre, & may reasonably expect a great deal more in a very short time, & therefore it would be of considerable advantage to us, if you could find out any Commodity weighty & of small price that would pay Freight & serve to Kintlage our ships in lieu of Petre, for which purpose we have named clear transparent Shellack to you, & in many of our former Letters we have mentioned Bees wax, we know it is not easy to procure a quantity thereof cheap, but now you are at greater leisure we hope you will look further, & contrive better for our interest than your Predecessors did among other things of that kind, M^{r}. Beard began the manufacture of Hempen or Flaxen Canvas, which if our troubles, & his own indisposition had not prevented might have grown in time to a considerable commodity when your Weavers had learnt the art of makeing it not altogether so stiff & apt to fret, w^{ch}. they would soon have come to, & yet have made it full as strong like the best Hollands Duck of which the low sails of our ships are generally made, and in a little time your Weavers might have afforded that Commodity much cheaper than they did at first, for we have allwaies found any new Commodity dearer by allmost half at first, than it is after your workmen are well practised in the makeing of it, as it happened formerly in your Taffaties of Cassim^{r}.

This we recommend again to your fresh endeavours.

You must likewise remember allwaies to provide in the best time & on the best terms two full ships Loading of Sugars for Persia, not so much for the bare Profit we hope to obtain by that Commodity, but because it is necessary for us to Create an Employment for great ships, the sight of which sailing in India tends much to the security & honour of our affairs, & discourages such as wish us not well from affronting or quarrelling with us.

We have contracted with all Commanders, & Owners as you will see in the copies of their new Charterparties, that all ships shall carry for us the same Tonnage from Port to Port in India, which they are obliged to bring home for Europe, & therefore you must not fail to send Rice and Provisions enough on board every ship of ours bound for Fort S^{t}. George or Bombay untill the Commanders say or give in writeing under their hands that they can take in no more, to the intent that when they come to make up accompts with us here, & we find they fell short of carrying their full Tonnage between Bengall & the Fort &c^{a}. they may have no pretence for avoiding the makeing us an allowance for such defect by telling us they took in all the Rice &c^{a}. which you had or would send on board them.

You have with this Packet the copies of three Contracts made with the Armenian Merchants, when we thought our Warr with the Mogull would have continued a great while longer than it did, & if we had thought otherwise we should have made some variation in it, however, since it is done, and many Nationall advantages may accrue to this Kingdome thereby, especially to the

English Navigation we resolve for this year at least to keep our Bargain inviolably with them, & although we have a liberty by [the con]tract hereafter to restrain Bay goods intirely to the Company We [will] for this year make no alteration, but require you to suffer them fully to enjoy all the priviledges granted to them by the Contracts aforesaid untill you receive our ord^{rs}. to y^{e}. Contrary.

But least we should be overcrowded with Bay Goods belonging to private persons, as we were formerly with Cuttanees[1] we have, by an order of Court inclosed, withdrawn the Indulgence formerly granted to all English during the Warr for bringing home of Bay Goods upon any ship or ships that shall depart Gravesend from and after the first day of this instant August 1688.

Your Cotton Yarn being of course sorts is very Bulkey and would be a brave Commodity to fill up our great ships with dispatch, if we were not grossly cheated in the buying of it, But such hath been our misfortune in Bengall for some years past that we have been shamefully abused in prices of allmost every Commodity, which we hope our now Agent & Council will take care to prevent and provide for us and send the quantity of 100 Tons of Cotton yarn if it can be obtained of the sorts and winding formerly ordered at thirty ℔ cẽt cheaper than your last rates of that Commodity, and if you can get it fourty ℔ cẽt cheaper send us two hundred Tons thereof, by which notwithstanding such abatement with you, we shall be very small gainers, our end in tradeing in your Bengall Cotton Yarn being principally to promote the English Navigation, by the last we had from you we lost ten ℔ c^{t}. of our Principall,

By the Tincall you last sent us we lost 70 ℔ c^{t}. & therefore wee think it might be the return of some of our own Factors alive or dead from China or other parts Eastward & invoiced so high for their private advantage, enquire strictly into it & see to get us satisfaction from the estates of those that put that cheat upon us, we sold that [we] had at 5^{li} 6^{d}. ℔ Cẽt: which was above the midling price, and we [note it] to you that you may the better know how to buy that Commodity hereafter to make us savers which is as much as we hope for by a Kintlage Commodity.

Our last Opium cost 90 Rupees ℔ maund sold here for 3^{li}. 9^{d}. by w^{ch}. (loss of weight considered) interest Custome freight charges & all is lost of which pray consider, & see to buy that Commodity better hereafter & send us some of it the best you can procure, because we would not loose any Commodity for one disappointment.

Let it be your great care to send us the best of any commodity, & then it will not fail to find a vent at one time or other, but your last stick-lack was stark naught as well as dear, if you could meet with a fine sort of it such as comes from Pegu, & we have sometimes had from the Fort it would turn to a very good acco^{t}. & you may send us fifty Tons thereof, besides what we have writ for from other places.

If we are not misinformed the Dutch make some Revenue of Chinsura, w^{ch}. is their Ward or Precinct of Hughly as Purtobpore is ours, and we expect you should be hereafter as wise as they are in making y^{e}. same Revenues of our part or Precinct of Hughley as the Dutch doe of theirs, and why should you not insist upon having y^{e}. farming of Ballasore, as We had it formerly in y^{e}. time of M^{r}. Bakes Chiefship, and as M^{r}. Bugden farm'd it formerly on his own acco^{t}. Certainly you might contrive by the means of that Place to create some addiẽonall Revenue to y^{e}. Comp^{a}. if you employ honest careful men there.

The Clear shellack desired you must pick up by degrees and in severall Places, and be industrious and thoughtfull about y^{e}. Procuring of it all y^{e}. year throughout ffor We know you can't buy a great Parcell and very good at once, but you will have Trash crowded upon you or mix'd with y^{e}. good.

[1] From Pers. *Kuttân* 'flax or linen cloth.' It applies to some kind of piece-goods, either of silk or mixed silk and cotton. *Hobson-Jobson*, p. 289.

Of y^e^. best white sugar Candy which is usually made at Tessinda ℔fectly well dryed you may send Us 20 or 30 Tons, if you can buy it at 7 Rup^s^. ℔ Maund little more or less, You must put it up in dry Chests, secured from y^e^. sides Ends Tops and bottoms of y^e^ Chests, with a little Cotton and a Course Wrapper, as your fine goods are from Cassimbuzar. But we would have our Agent himself not to trust wholly to samples, without seing some of y^e^ Parcells with his own eyes, and the whole by such as he can rely upon.

The obtaining of this Commodity to be made good and sent Us safely as aforesaid We know is a work of Care and time, and must be done by degrees, which We recommend most particularly to our Agent because of y^e^. great want We have of Kintlage Goods in Bengall, while We are so very much overstored with the salt Petre, of which We would bring no more for these 2. or 3. years if We could Possibly contrive to make our ships sail worthy w^th^.out it.

When Raw silk or any other Commodity is dear send Us y^e^. lesse of it, & the more of any Commodity writt for when it is cheap and very good.

Give your money early out for Taffaties y^t^. you may procure y^o^. great^t^. quantity of y^m^.

Settle Maulda ffactory again, as soon as possible you can, it being certainly a very gainfull ffactory, if you have an honest Chief and second in it.

We Would trust none sooner than M^r^. Peachy there by y^e^. goods We [have seen] from him thô We know him, not otherwise, but We love to acknowledge [every] man's meritt, let him buy such sorts of Raw silk at Maulda as are to be had there of y^e^. Numbers writt for in our Memoriall, We being well assured that y^t^. Place for what it affords is cheaper by 20 ℔ Cent than Cassimbuzar.

We are apt to think you might with a little Pains & Correspondency procure yearly quantities of y^e^. best sort of sticklack & Beeswax, and it may be y^e^. right sort of shellack from Raccan, Pray try your skill therein, and at every other Place where those Commodities are like to be had, but this likewise must be done by degrees and with Industry, for you must never expect that any new thing will fall into yo^r^. hands of it self, or y^t^. you can easily meet w^th^. a great Parcell very good at once.

Possibly some of y^e^. Armenian poor Merch^ts^. which can travell further for 2 than you can or will with y^e^. Charge of ten shillings, may be fittest to employ to provide those Commodities for you, or for themselves being encouraged by you to that Purpose, especially since by our Contract if they desire it they may bring those Commodities for Europe by our shippng for their own acco^ts^. and the more they doe so bring especially of Kintlage goods the better it is for y^e^. English Navigation and for y^e^. Company.

Thô We have wrote for a great quantity of Indico from Suratt of severall sorts, yet considering your want of Kintlage goods, and that Agra is within 3 days Journey of Pattana, from whence you have all water carriage, which is much cheaper than Land carriage, We are apt to think if you were in y^e^. way of it you might buy Indico cheaper in y^e^. Bay than We can buy it in Suratt, where the land carriage from Agra is so much further and dearer. We would therefore for an experiment desire you to buy carefully & send Us fifty tonns of Indico, viz^t^. 20. tonns of y^e^. best sort, ten tonns of y^e^. 2^d^. sort, ten tons of the 3^d^. sort, and ten tons of y^e^. 4^th^. or cheapest sort of all. But We shall like it altogether as well or better if you can perswade y^e^. thrifty experienced Armenians to break the ice first in buying and bringing this Commodity by the way of Bengall on our ships for Europe for their Proper acco^ts^. and for y^e^. following Reasons.

1^st^. Because if they so bring it, it serves as well to Kintlage our ships as if We brought it our selves.

2^d^. If you employ not our stock in Indico you may employ it in other Commodities that may turn to as good or a better acco^t^.

3d. When ye. Armenians Indico comes hither it is ours if We like it wth: out being at any Disbursmt: or hazard of ye. sea, paying ym. only 30 ℔ cent. advance on ye. prime [cost].

4th. If we take it not to our selves on those terms We shall send it for them to Turkey, or farr enough out of ye. way for spoiling our own marketts at home.

5th. Whether we take it to our selves, or send it abroad, it must certainly pay ye. King [& Us] ye. Custome & Duties reserv'd by our Contract before We part with it. So [that in] every way We have reason to conclude this Armenian Contract will prove in [time] of great advantage to ye. English Nation in Generall as well as to the Compa. in Particular, if you do your Parts in being kind and Courteous to them.

We had formerly from you a sort of strong Cloth, called Erundee Cloth, which was bought very ill and dear, and that dear & ill buying of it, together with our Buyers being unacquainted with ye. Use of it, caused us to forbear sending for any more of it. But now We have (as We conceive of Mr. Charnock) a good man at ye. helm, We are willing to try it again, being loth to loose any Usefull Commodity especially so staple and strong a Commodity as that is, if Europe were well acquainted with ye. wearing of it, & therefore We desire you to send Us ten Bales thereof, to be made full yard wide & 30 Covids long, thick & strong Cloth, and four Bales of Erundee yarn not cross reeled. We adventure again upon this Comm[odity] in hopes by degrees to bring it into use, especially considering it is a Cheap heavy Commodity & may stand Us in great stead towds. lading our ships if by your care We can buy it so cheap & well as not to loose by it.

Your Town of Ulaburrea We understand hath depth of Water sufficient to make Docks and conveniences for ye. Repairing any of our biggest ships and is a healthfull Place, and therefore We have added a Paragraph in our Letter to our Generall since We subscribed our Letter to ye. Mogull, that if he can obtain a Phirmaund from ye. Mogull for our holding that Place fortify'd wth. ye. same imunities & Priviledges We hold ffort St. George, We will be therewith content wth. out looking farther or being at any new charge in contending for any other fortified settlement in Bengall.

But then considering that you may be at a Losse for good Pilots up ye. Ganges in case of ye. Death of George Heron & one or two more of ye. best of your Pilots, We find it necessary to give you leave at any time to make choice of any of the soberest of our young Mates or Midshipmen, that are willing to stay in ye. Country to make Masters of our sloops, and to bring up for Pilots in ye. River of Ganges, the rather because now We have such a Place of our own as Ulaburrea We would have none of our ships hereafter to ride in Ballasore road spoiling their ground tackle, and wearying out their men with rowing such long stretches.

We would likewise have all our ships hereafter homewd. bound, now you have yt. convent. place, be made clean to ye. Keel before they take in goods & to stiffen their sheathings wth. new nailes, woh. will tend very much to ye. expedition of their Passages as well as to ye. security of ships Goods & mens lives. So commending you & our affairs to ye. Guidance & Protection of ye. Almighty, We remain.

Your loving ffriends,

THOMAS BOONE.
RO: MARSHALL.
FFRA: GOSFRIGHT.
WILLIAM DES BOUVERIE.
RT. HUTCHINSON Junr.

HEN: JOHNSON.
THO. CHAMBER
THO: RAWLINSON.
JOSEPH HERNE.

BEN. BATHURST Govr.
JOSA. CHILD Deptyr. Gor.
CHANDOS BARON OF [SUDELEY].
JA. EDWARD.
JOHN MOORE.
NATHA TENCHE.

LIST OF BAY GOODS TO BE PROVIDED FOR THE YEAR 1690.

	Peeces.
Nilllæs of severall sorts of stripes & good colours them of F.A.B. & C. by the Herbert were good but must be of severall stripes viz^{t}: F.A. 8000. F.B. 8000. F.C. 6000. ordinary sort A.B. & C. each 6000	40,000
The narrow stripes are most in esteem here, therefore enlarge in them all you can, Take great care that they be full 20 Covids long as formerly.	
Ginghams coloured to be of all sorts of Cloth colours mixed, ¼ tawney bright, ½ grey black & white, ¼ part hair colour light & sad, to be bought cheaper as they well may be & take care they be made well & good colours	20,000
Sattins of all sorts of colours some very good & some ordinary no green, nor all silk, but let them be viz^{t}: Black Pink Sky French Yellow Crimson & some cloth colours	1,000
Mohobut bannies	2,000
Jammawarse fine Muslin small & neat flowers white like those by the Eagle	2,000
Ditto fine with Gold & silver well sorted do well, but 100. or 150. Peeces in a chest or Bale, but none to be striped with silk	1,000
Cherconnees to be of good lively colours and cheaper	2,000
Note that the Cherconnees b N°. 2. ℔ Herbert did sell for loss whereas the following Number N°. 2. & 3 sold for 30, or 40 ℔ cent profit.	
Elatches of 10 yards long & yard broad of small stripes & good lively colours	5,000
You have been remiss in not sending the best sort of Elatches.	
Ditto Lingua, the last were false goods	2,000
Peniascoes of good lively colours 4,000 P^{s} Cotton & 2,000 P^{s}. silk	6,000
Chucklaes of small stripes & lively colours to be bought 40 ℔ cent cheaper	2,000
Mullmulls plain of all sorts some finer than any yet had to be without frayes	10,000
Let great care be taken that they be well bought & sorted each sort & price to be embaled by themselves.	
The Mullmulls from Maulda were good & sold well, from Hugly but indifferent, but those from Decca were very bad ill sorted & will not sell.	
Mullmulls flowered of fine & even threads ⅛ small Flowers thick & ¼ large flowers	2,000
Those by the Eagle were of a very bad & course cloth, for the future take especiall care that the Cloth be very well wove of an even thread & finest cloth procurable.	
Some Japan work would sell well.	
Mullmulls striped with Flowers, but the stripes to be made narrow & at a great distance, so as there may be a capacity for the flowers between	1,000
Ditto striped or Doreas with plain stripes ¼. 3. stripes small ½ small stripes the finer the better and ¼ large stripes ...	12,000
Let them be fine & well sorted which will advance their price here, the narrow stripes & the three small striped Doreas sell best.	
Take speciall care that all your Mullmulls be well woven and even threaded.	

	Peeces.
The Mullmulls of all sorts that came from Ballasore were bad goods and too dear.	
All your Mullmulls by the Eagle were very ill sorted insomuch that some chests differed from others of the same number & price above 20 ℔ c^{t} : & some Peeces above 15 ℔ c^{t}: better than others in the same Bale.	
The Mullmulls from Decca being particularly faulty.	
Let your Mullmulls be packt in Bales rather than chests.	
Chandenees small stripes & good lively colours	4,000
Orungshies to be made thicker & good cloth colours	2,000
Nehallawars to be made thicker & good lively colours	2,000
Comconnies to be cheaper & good lively colours	1,000
Jelolsies if well sorted & even threaded	2,000
Fine Cossæs as white as possibly can to be yard & 3 nails or ell wide	6,000
The Cossæs Decca Jungall fine were too dear & did not sell, the putting 3 or 4 sorts of goods of different Prizes into a chest is very prejudiciall, which abuse take great care to reforme for the future that the Comp^{a}: may not again suffer by each negligence.	
Those from Maulda sold well.	
Tanjeibs if well sorted & fine, part very fine	10,000
Those from Hughly were ill sorted & packed so that many did not sell, & of those that did, many were sold for 4. or 5 shillings a Peece less than many others of the same mark.	
But those from Decca sold indifferently well.	
Seersuckers to be fine & better sorted	4,000
Seerbands to be fine & well sorted	4,000
Fine Addaties to be fine & well sorted some part very fine ...	2,000
Your Addaties plain do not turn to any acco^{t}:	
Mundells must be 20 yards long & yard wide of severall lively colours, but the stripes must be in the warp length ways & not in the woofs, Ell broad if possible or as near it as you can, but none under yard broad	2,000
Taffaties sad colours 30,000, & 30,000 light whereof ⅓ French yellows, all made stronger, the cloth colours most sad Nutmeg, Musk & Cinamon	6,000
Ditto changeable colours of severall sorts	2,000
D^{o}. black if the silk be first dyed	2,000
But of those dyed after made send none for they prove rotten.	
D^{o}. full skyes	1,000
D^{o}. Isabella 1,000 P^{s}. & whites, Milk white if possible 2,000 Peeces	3,000
D^{o}. White or Ash to be died into black here ½ Ell & nail wide & better double Peeces 20 yards long, otherwise called Gutburrows	10,000
Let the Gutburrows black be embaled by themselves & not severall sorts in a chest.	
D^{o}. Crimson good colours	4,000
Raw Taffaties evener & betted sorted, & not of such pale colours as those by the golden Fleece	6,000
Striped Cheyn Taffaties of various colours as ℔ directions formerly sent	4,000
Striped Taffaties 10 yards long & yard wide, ½ cloth colours ½ light colours	3,000

	Peeces.
Silk Longees 3½ yds, or 7 yds, or 10½ yds long full yard or yard ⅛ broad, ½ small checquers the other half striped in the warp length ways, ½ cloth colours, ½ light colours In the former Longees the stripes went the wrong ways, these must go the length ways	2,000
White Sarsenetts	4,000
Plush & Velvetts if good crimson, sky, cherry, mazarine blew, that is a deep blew for the Velvetts, the Plush must be cloth-colours from sad to light	60
Neck cloths flowered if finer cloth & sorted with variety of flowers but not above ¾ the depth the last were with a handsome fringe at the end	20,000
Let great care be had to the sorting, the goodness of the cloth and neatness of the flowers, according to the patterns and directions formerly sent you.	
Rastaes N. 15.1,000. and N°. 1 & 2.1,000.	2,000
Whatsoever new stuffs you send, lead us no less than an intire Bale.	
Gurraes to be better packed than those by the Anne	10,000
Romalls S. N°. 1. 4,000. N°. 2. 4,000. N°. F. 8,000	16,000
But they must be thicker & broader as the sort of Gurrub and cheaper.	
Romalls Gurrub G. N°. 1. 16,000 No. 2. 16,000 N°. 3. 8,000 ...	40,000
D°. ordinary N°. 1. 2 & 3	40,000
Raw silk N°. B ... ... Bales	500
D°. C	500
D°. D	200
D°. E	150
D°. F	30
D°. G	10
D°. H	10
Let it be clean & bright colours with a good gloss. Vide Bay Generall.	
Floretta yarn A. Bales	200
D°. B.	60
Sooseys send us Ps. but 20 per cent Cheaper than formerly having been abused	5,000
Cotton Yarn of 2. or 3. sorts send us but 20 ℔ C^t. Cheaper than formerly having been abused ... ... Bales ...	300
Atlasses if very good & cheap of various sorts but none very rich	500
Gulpombaes send us	5,000
Sannoes send none except you can buy them 25 ℔ c^t. cheaper than the last, then send	10,000

All sorts of Raw silk are fallen in price, wherefore send us the less of the sorts, We have wrote for except you can have 10. or 15. ℔ c^t. abated, & send none at all of any other sorts or numbers than what are before mentioned.

All your goods from the Bay are exceeding ill packed,— & have been so for some years, many of the Bales having no wax cloth, nor any other defensative against wet or dammage, whereby the Company have suffered great dammage and Loss.

Let particular care be taken to reform so intollerable a negligence.

Let great regard be had to the better sortment of all the goods from your parts, which hath been an insufferable abuse to the Company, many of the goods lying on their hands, & others selling to loss, whereas had due regard been had to the right sortment of them, they might have advanced considerably.

Tincall how to proceed in Buying thereof Vide Bay Generall.
Opium send some y^e^. best you can procure about w^ch^. Vid. Bay Letter.
Sticklack as ℔ Directions in D^o^. Letter send us Tonns 50.
Clear shellack send all you can procure of y^e^. Cassimbuzar sort.
For Bees wax sugarcandy & all other heavy or kintlage goods, consult seriously the Bay generall.

Agent Bannies ...	if to be bo^t^. 30. or 35 ℔ C^t^. cheaper as ℔ Direction in y^e^. Negative list send of each.	Pieces 1,000
Sham Thea		
Adecuncaes... ...		

LIST OF BAY GOODS WHEREOF NONE ARE TO BE SENT TILL FURTHER ORDER.

Romalls Cassaree send none being too dear, of a very bad colour.
Humhums send none.
Herba Taffaties plain & striped send none.
Herba stuffs send none.
Herba Longees & Longees Herba & Cotton send none.
Send no Silk N^o^. A which bears the highest price in India and y^e^. lowest here, it being too fine for this Market send no silk of any lower number than H the middle prices turning to most advantage.
Soops send none.
Chawtars send none.
Coora Assemany send none.
Umbres send none.
Rehings send none.
Pattana chints send none.
Girdles flower'd send none.
Addaties send none of the plain sort.
Luckhowries send none.
Ammorees send none.
Taffaties black send none of those dyed after made.
Jammawarse send none made of silk nor striped with silk.
Cherconnees send none of N^o^. B. 2.
Bannaras silk send none.
Begum Surray Cloth send none.
Emmerties send none.

Agent Banies Sham Thea Adecuncæs	Send none except could be bought cheaper by 30. or 35 ℔ Cent as We veryily believe they may, and if soe send 1000 P^s^. of each sort to keep those Commodities on foot.

Turmerick send none on any pretence whatsoever. vid :Bay Generall.

GENERAL LETTER TO BOMBAY, DATED SEPTEMBER 11, 1688. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 9, p.* 38.]

LONDON THE 11^TH^: SEPTEMBER 1688:

OUR GENERALL OF INDIA &
PRESIDENT & COUNCIL OF BOMBAY.

Upon perusall of your Consultation Bookes, we find in sev^ll^. places you pay money, out of the Comp^as^: stock, for relieveing of some poor English, & other charitable uses, which is more than we can justly or dare do ourselves, we being not intrusted with the Adventurers stock as the Gov^rs^: of Hospitalls, or to dispose of it for charitable uses, but to Trade with it, & to fortifie & defend our Trade &c^a^: by Treaties or Arms, yet since there will in all Colonies be a necessity

sometimes to relieve distressed poor, we have a Bank given at pays by seamen, & left by charitable persons at their death for relief of necessitous people that have served the Compª; Out of which we do as we see cause relieve such persons; & we would have you pursue the like method to raise a fund or stock for that purpose, which you may intrust in the hands of two or three of our Councill, & two or three of the best most charitable & ablest of your Inhabitants, whom you may comission by themselves or their proper officer to ask & receive upon all Pay days, & every Lords day, or once a month at the Church, what shall be freely contributed towards the relief of the poor, & you may entitle those so commissionated by the name, or Style of Fathers of the poor; as the Dutch call them Fathers or Masters of the Weet houses, & for the most part as well in the Cities of Holland, as in Battavia, Malacca, Amboyna, & others of their Colonies abroad, men of the best quality & estates are desirous, & account it an honour to have that title, & be thereby capacitated to do the more good in their generation, & have so mañaged that affair in Battavia, and with that candour & Justice, that by the liberall contribution of the Inhabitants, & the free gifts of dyeing persons, the poors Stock in that city is become of the value of thirty thousand Pounds sterling. The Fathers of the poor being impowered by the Generall & Council as the stock increases to purchase Lands & Revenues for a Yearly income & constant supply to answer all necessities of that kind. This method we would recommend to you, or a better if you can find out by discourse or otherwise the Dutch pattern in this case, & exactly imitate it, they being a Nation confessedly, by the whole world, the most considerate prudent & foreseeing of any people in Europe in affairs of this kind.

2. In all the receipts of our Revenues of any kind, you are never to make any difference or distinction between the Compªˢ: servants, English, or Forreignʳˢ for we will have all men pay alike in all our Garrisons. Wee are

Your very loving Friends.

R. HUTCHINSON	T. CHAMBER	J CHILD Depᵗʸ.
R. HUTCHINSON, Junʳ.	T. COOKE	G. BOUNE
T. RAWLINSON	J. EDWARDS	T. BOONE
R. MARSHALL	J. GODERE	Wᴹ. D'BOUVERIE
N. TENCH	J. HERNE	CHANDOS

Armenian Contract.

The Company's contract with the Armenians.

THE GOVERNOUR & COMPANY of Merchᵗˢ. of Londº. trading to yᵉ. East Indies, TO ALL to whom these pñts shall come send Greeting, Whereas Representacõn hath been made to Us, by Sʳ. Josia Child Baronet our Deputy Governʳ. That upon long Conferences by him had wᵗʰ. Coja Panous Calendar an Armenian Merchᵗ. of eminency & an Inhabitant of Ispahan in Persia, as also wᵗʰ. Sʳ. John Chardin of London Knᵗ., they had on behalf of yᵉ. Armenian Nacon proposed to him severall particulars for carrying on a great part of yᵉ. Armenians trade to India & Persia, & from thence to Europe by the way of England, wᶜʰ. will redound greatly to his Maᵗʸ's. advantage in his Customs, & to yᵉ. encrease of the ENGLISH Navigation, if yᵉ. Armenian nation might obtain such licences from this Company as will give them encouragement so to alter & invert yᵉ. ancient course of their Trade to & ffom Europe: AND we being always willing to encrease & encourage yᵉ. publick trade & Navigation of this kingdom, After a serious debate of all the Propositions relating to this Affayr, have thought fit to agree & resolve as follows, Vizᵗ.

FIRST, that yᵉ. Armenian Nation shall now & at all times hereafter have equal share & benefit of all Indulgences this Compª. have or shall at any time hereafter grant to any of their own Adventurers or other English Merchants whatsoever.

SECONDLY, That they shall have free Liberty at all times hereafter to pass & repass to & from India on any of the Compªˢ. ships, on as advantageous terms as any ffreeman whatsoever.

THIRDLY, That they shall have liberty to live in any of yᵉ. Companies Cities Garisons or Towns in India, and to buy sell & purchase land or houses, and be

capable of all civill Offices & Preferments in the same manner as if they were Englishmen born; & shall always have the free & undisturbed liberty of the exercise of their own Religion, And we hereby declare, that we will not continue any Gov^{r}. in our service y^{t}. shall in any kind disturb or discountenance them in the full enjoyment of all y^{e}. Priviledges hereby granted to them: Neither shall they pay any other or greater duty in India than y^{e}. Comp^{as}. ffactors or any other Englishman born do or ought to doe.

Fourthly, That they may voyage from any of y^{e}. Comp^{as}. Garisons to any other Ports or places in India y^{e}. South Seas China or y^{e}. Manillas in any of y^{e}. Comp^{as}. ships or any permissive free ships allowed by y^{e}. Comp^{a}. & may have liberty to trade to China y^{e}. Manillas or any other Ports or Places within y^{e}. limits of y^{e}. Comp^{as}. Chre, upon equal terms duties & freights, wth. any free Englishmen whatsoever.

But whereas all Persons in England doe pay for Bullion Outwards two ℔ Cent for freight & permission, & Three ℔ C^{t}. homew^{ds}. for Diam^{os}. & other precious stones, It is hereby declared & agreed, That y^{e}. Armenians shall pay 3 ℔ Cent outw^{ds}. for Bullion, & two ℔ Cent homew^{d}. for Diam^{os}. For Corrall & Amber beads they shall pay six ℔ C^{t}. for freight & permission, and for Corral & Amber raw, Cochineil, Quicksilver, sword blades, ffire-Arms of all sorts, Haberdashery Wares, Iron of all sorts wrought or unwrought, Paper, all sorts of stationary Wares, English looking or drinking Glasses, & for all sorts of Norimbergh Wares & Merchandizes, Ten ℔ Cent for Permission & six pounds ℔ ton freight. That all sorts of Leather, Venetian Wares and Merchandizes may be shipt out permission free, paying only six pounds ℔ ton freight. ffor all Cloth or Woollen Manufactures of w^{t}. kind or sort soever they shall pay 12½ ℔ Cent, in lieu of all charges w^{t}.-soever, excepting only y^{e}. freight & y^{e}. Comp^{as}. Customs in India: for Lead ten ℔ Cent permission & £3 ℔ ton fr^{te}: ffor Provisions of all sorts for eating & drinking £6 ℔ ton freight but no permission: And for all sorts of Goods homew^{d}. bound they shall pay in manner & form foll^{o}: Viz^{t}. ffor Diam^{os}: Pearls Rubies, all sorts of precious stones & Ambergreice Two ℔ Cent fr^{te}. & permission as aforesaid: for Musk of any kind six ℔ C^{t}. for fr^{te}. & permission: for Pepper one penny ℔ pound & for Coffee ten ℔ C^{t}. Permission besides fr^{te}: for all Raw silk of Persia 21 ℔ ton fr^{te}. but no Permission Custom or any other Charges w^{t}.soever; excepting 2½ ℔ C^{t}. tow^{ds}. Demorage of our ships: for all Goods w^{t}.soever of y^{e}. growth & Manufacture of Persia (Red Carmania Wool excepted, w^{ch}. is hereby totally prohibited) ten ℔ Cent permission, & y^{e}. same fr^{ts}. as y^{e}. Comp^{a}. themselves pay, wth.out any other Charges w^{t}.soever: ffor all sorts of China & Bengall Goods during the Comp^{as}. Indulgence for those kinds of Goods & no longer, in w^{t}. place soever laden, 13 ℔ Cent for Permission, & all other Charges w^{t}.soever over & above y^{e}. same fr^{te}. as the Comp^{a}. pays, & y^{e}. Customs hereafter mencoñed, Viz^{t}. All goods outw^{d}. & homew^{d}. bound are to pay y^{e}. Comp^{a}. in East India 5 ℔ C^{t}. Custom on y^{e}. 1st. cost as ℔ Invoices of the said Goods Whether they be loaden from or delivered into any of the Comp^{as}. Ports or Places, or into any other Ports or Places w^{t}.soever, excepting only from this Article all Bullion Diam^{os}. & other Precious stones, Ambergreise, Musk & Raw Persian silk: And it is agreed, y^{t}. y^{e}. Permission mony & fr^{te}. for all Goods outw^{d}. bound to be p^{d}. in India as aforesaid shalbe accompted for at 8½ rup^{s}. ℔ £ sterl. upon Hypothecation of y^{e}. Goods to y^{e}. Comp^{a}. in London & we doe declare, y^{t}. for ease of Acco^{ts}. y^{e}. Custom due to the Comp^{a}. in East India is to be included, together wth. y^{e} other charges, Viz^{t}. fr^{te}. & Permission according to y^{e}. Premises, and all incerted in one sume upon the respective Bills of loading, w^{ch}. sume is allways to be paid before y^{e}. delivery of y^{e}. Goods to y^{e}. Persons mencoñed in the said Bills of loading, w^{ch}. is y^{e}. true intent of the Hypothecation before express'd. That all Goods w^{ch}. have once paid Custom, are not to pay any again, either upon Importation or exportation of the said Goods to the Place where they first paid it, or to any other Port or Place belonging to Us in y^{e}. East Indies. That every Person y^{t}. shall take passage on any of y^{e}. Comp^{as}. ships shall pay in East

India 12 £ sterl for his Permission outw^{d}., at y^{e}. rate of 8½ Rup^{s}. ℔ £ sterl & the like sume to be paid here for every Person y^{t}. shall take passage homew^{d}., besides 8 £ ℔ head for sea Provisions, w^{ch}. it is hereby agreed shall always be paid in London & for such Persons, as shall board at y^{e}. Cap^{ts}. Table, They shall pay 10 Guineys each to y^{e}. Cap^{t}. for the same. But the servants shalbe messed apart by themselves, & allways have y^{e}. same allowances of ship Provisions as the Officers and seamen of the ship have or ought to have. And it is also granted to the said Armenians y^{t}. the Passengers shalbe allowed both out & home to carry with them their wearing Cloths furniture & Provisions not exceeding one Quarter of a Tonn for each man fr^{te}. free. And Whereas y^{e}. said Armenians have used to drive a great trade from India to Turkey Overland by the way of Persia and Arabia, & are now desirous to drive y^{t}. whole trade by the way of England, It is hereby declar'd & agreed that y^{e}. said Armenians have liberty to send upon any of the Comp^{as}. ships for England any sorts of goods of East India, consigning them to the Comp^{a}. by true Invoices & Bills of Loading & not otherwise, paying ten ℔ C^{t}. permission on y^{e}. value of y^{e}. said Goods in London besides y^{e}. same fr^{te}. as we ourselves pay. And it is hereby declared, that the Company have liberty to detain & keep in their possession all such Goods as shalbe consigned unto them as aforesaid, untill they have shipped them off upon English shipping bound for Turkey Venice or Legliorne & taken security that they shall not be landed in any other Ports or Places of Europe, except the Places to which they shalbe consigned, according as they shalbe directed by the said Armenians Proprietors, or their Agents. And lastly it is declared & agreed, That notwth.-standing anything aforesaid, it shall & may be lawfull for the said Comp^{a}. to reserve & keep for their own use any of the said Goods so intended for Turkey as aforesaid, paying the Proprietors one Third part clear Profit on y^{e}. first Cost of the Goods as aforesaid, all fr^{te}. charges & disbursments w^{t}.soever being first deducted & forepriz'd 8 Rup^{s}. in India being in this case to be accompted for one Pound sterling. In Witness whereof y^{e}. Gov^{r}. Dep^{ty}. Gov^{rs}. & 3 of y^{e}. Com^{tees}. of y^{e}. said Comp^{a}. have hereunto sett their hands & caused y^{e}. larger seal of y^{e}. said Comp^{a}. to be affixed this 22th. day of June Año Dom. 1688, & in y^{e}. 4th. year of y^{e}. raign of our Soveraign Lord James y^{e}. 2^{d}. by the Grace of God King of England Scotland ffrance & Ireland Defendor of the Faith &c^{a}.

Benj^{a}. Bathurst Govern^{r}.
Josia Child Dep^{ty} Gov^{r}.
Signed Worcester
John Moore
Geo: Boun

Coja Panous Kalendar the sole trade of Garnats.

The Governour & Company of Merchants of London trading into y^{e}. East Indies, To All whom it may concern send Greeting Whereas Coja Panous Calendar an Armenian Merch^{t}. of eminency, And an Inhabitant of Ispahan in Persia hath taken great pains in making an Agreem^{t}. wth. y^{e}. s^{d}. Comp^{a}. for a great trade to be carryed on in English shipping by himself & others of y^{e}. Armenian Nacõn. The said Gov^{r}. & Comp^{a}. in Consideration thereof, Doe by these presents (at y^{e}. request of y^{e}. said Coja Panous Kalendar) freely grant unto him & his family y^{e}. sole trade of Garnats, He paying Ten ℔ Cent Custom for the same, & y^{e}. usuall fr^{te}. paid by the Comp^{a}. And y^{e}. said Comp^{a}. doe hereby declare, That they will neither trade in the said Comõdity themselves, nor suffer any other Persons English or strangers for y^{e}. future to trade or traffique in y^{t}. Comõdity, Given under y^{e}. Comp^{as}. larger Seal, As also under y^{e}. hands of the Gov^{r}. Deputy Gov^{r}. & 3 of y^{e}. Com^{tee}. of y^{e}. said Comp^{a}. this 22th. day of June Año Dom. 1688, And in y^{e}. 4th. year of y^{e}. raign of our soveraign Lord James y^{e}. 2^{d}.

by y^e^. Grace of God King of England Scotland ffrance & Ireland Defendor of y^e^. ffaith &c^a^.

BENJ^A^. BATHURST Govern^r^.
JOSIA CHILD Deputy Govern^r^.
Signed WORCESTER
JOHN MOORE
GEORGE BOUN

THE GOVERNOUR & COMPANY of Merch^ts^. of London trading into y^e^. East Indies, To ALL whom it may concern send Greeting. Whereas it hath been represented unto us That y^e^. Armenian Nation [have] a great desire to carry on a Trade & Commerce w^th^. our People in the East Indies, We doe for the better encouragem^t^. of y^t^. Nacon to settle and cohabit in y^e^. severall Garrisons Cities & Towns in the East Indies under our Jurisdiction, by these presents declare grant & agree, y^t^. when ever 40 or more of the Armenian Nacon shall become Inhabitants in any of the Garisons Cities or Towns belonging to the Comp^a^. in the East Indies, the said Armenians shall not only have & enjoy y^e^. free use & exercise of their Religion, but there shalbe also allotted to them a parcell of ground to erect a Church thereon for y^e^. Worship and service of God in their own way: And y^t^. we will also at our own charge, cause a convenient Church to be built of Tymber, w^ch^. afterw^ds^. the said Armenians may alter & build w^th^. stone or other solid Materialls to their own good liking And the said Gov^r^. & Comp^a^. will also allow 50 pounds ℔ Ann. during y^e^. space of 7 years for y^e^. maintenance of such Priest or Minister as they shall choose to officiate therein. Given under y^e^. Comp^as^. larger seal as also under y^e^. hands of the Gov^r^. Deputy Gov^r^: & 3 of y^e^. Com^tees^. of y^e^. said Comp^a^. this 22^th^. day of June Año Dom. 1688. And in the 4^th^. year of y^e^. raign of our Soveraign Lord James y^e^. 2^d^. King of England Scotland ffrance & Ireland Defendor of y^e^. ffaith &c^a^.

Armenians, privileges granted them in India.

BENJ^A^. BATHURST Governour
JOSIA CHILD Deputy Govern^r^.
Signed WORCESTER
JOHN MOORE
GEORGE BOUN

AT A COURT OF COMMITTEES HOLDEN THE 10^TH^. AUGUST 1688.

Whereas this Court did in September last, in and by their Generall Letter to their President and Council at ffort S^t^. George, and otherwise, grant Licence to their ffactors and ffree Merchants to send home on y^e^. Companies ships during the Warr with the Great Mogull, and during y^e^. space of six Months from and after the making and Concluding a peace there, all sorts of China Goods or Bengall Goods menconed in a List, upon the terms and conditions therein particularly expressed.

The Court this day taking into Consideration the great inconvenience that may happen to them by being overcrowded with Bay Goods belonging to Private Persons which may arrive here by vertue of y^e^. said Licence, The Warr with that King, or Great Mogull being now ended & a Peace concluded in India; Doe thereupon order and declare, That the said Liberty and Indulgence so granted as aforesaid for bringing home Goods from the Bay of Bengall, upon any ship or shipps which shall Depart from Gravesend from and after the first day of this Instant August be wholly withdrawn disanulled and made void; Except only what concernes such Goods as shalbe laden by the Armenian Merchants in Pursuance of their Contract, which is hereby nevertheless confirmed.

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT S^{T}. GEORGE, DATED FEBRUARY 15, 1689.

[*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 9, pp. 44—55.*]

LONDON THE 15TH. OF FFEBRUARY 168$\frac{8}{9}$.

OUR GENERALL OF INDIA AND OUR PRESIDENT & COUNCILL OF FORT S^{T}. GEORGE.

1. You have with this Pacquet Copies of all our formers Overland since the departure of Captaine W^{m}. Heath. And now we are at a great loss what to write you more by reason of the want of our winter shipping which we doe and have for some Weeks expected.

2. Your sending us Bettellees again by the Beaufort, after we had so often forbid them is so shameless a presumption, that we know not w^{t}. to make of it, nor what you mean by it, or what you can alledge in excuse of it. We do therefore desire our Generall and Councill to inquire into this matter, and who were culpable in such a barefac'd violation of our Orders, and what selfish ends led them to it, and to give us an Acco^{t}. thereof, And for the future we confirme our former order, that no more Bettellees be sent us of any sort, before we shall particularly write for them.

3. We have sent you no stock of Bullion by this ship, because we find we have a very great stock in the Country, especially at Bombay, from whence we suppose our Generall will order you what supply he finds requisite for our service, It being impossible as we think that he should be able on the Northside of India to invest those great sumes of money which we have sent him, besides what he hath rec^{d}. for freights and Reprizalls.

4. We know not whether before this ship arrives You may have sent down Tonnage sufficient to bring, all our effects from the Bay. If you have not, this is the only ship you can depend on from us this year for that purpose. If you have sent shipping sufficient to bring off all our Europe Effects there this year (which we rather incline to believe) the best freight you can have for this ship we conceive may be that usually from Metchlepatam to Persia; But if you fail of that, we think the next best may be to send her to y^{e} Bay to load Sugars & other Goods upon ffreight to Persia from thence to return to Bombay and there and upon the Coast of Malabar to be loaden home to us with Pepper & other proper Goods for Europe.

5. We shall send no other ship but this the Chandos for the Coast of Choromandell this year, It being very difficult to get out [our shipping at] this time, by reason of the War and rumours of war, and consequently the high rate of Seamens Wages, which argument, you may very justly make use of to raise our ffreights upon the Natives, Armenians, Persians &c^{a}. and the rather because there wilbe little safety for them this ensueing year upon any other than English shipping for y^{e}. reasons more largely intimated to you in former Letters. Two ships viz^{t}. the Benjamin a new ship of 430 tons, and the Herbert we hope to get out for Bombay this spring, and we are not sure of any other of any kind, except upon the rec^{t}. of your next advices by our Winter ships upon the News of the Confirmacon of your Peace we should dispatch the Beaufort for Bengall directly with a considerable stock of Dollars to be there invested. The ship not to stay for the returnes of that stock, but to be immediately dispatcht from the Bay to Persia with Sugars, & from Persia to Bombay, and from Bombay to Emoy in China, where the Commander Cap^{t}. Nicholson is well acquainted, and assures us there is a Draught of water sufficient for a ship of her Burthen, ffrom China she is to returne to Bombay or ffort S^{t}. George, as you shall direct, from w^{ch}. directed place she is to load home for Europe. This is a long Voyage, but with care and diligent dispatch at all places, it may be shortned, and we give this early and formall acco^{t}: of our purpose, that you may do what is requisite to be done or provided before hand to give her a speedy dispatch from Bengall, and when it shall be seasonable from Bombay likewise, In the mean time it shalbe

our care to have the ship so strongly repaired fitted and sheathed after our new manner, that she may with Gods blessing be capable of performing the Voyage very well.

6. The Lords and Commons in the present Convention have already agreed to prohibite all trade with ffrance, which we look upon as the Prologue to a War, what votes they have made since their meeting Cap^{t}. Bonnell can informe you and we shall order our Sec^{ry}. to send you in a paper apart, because if we should tell you now, it would be but in part, every day producing something new.

7. Long Cloth and Sallampores, especially the ordinary sorts, are y^{e}. most staple Commodities that your side of India produceth, of them you may send us what you can procure, having speciall regard to the well sorting of them according to the Musters ffor other Goods, we know not what particular directions to give you, nor how to draw out with Judgment any List of Europe Goods demanded to send you untill we see what we shall have by our expected Winter ships.

8. Sail cloth strong and well sorted according to muster, you may likewise send us what you can, and also all the Pepper you can, but no Turmerick by any means, nor Cassia Lignum, except it be of the very fine Quill sort, which we have seen from Batavia, & some part of the South Sea.

9. M^{r}. Hatsell being a man of true Piety and sincerity, we do appoint to be youngest of our Councill at ffort S^{t}. George (God sending him to arrive safely with you from China) at the salary of 40 $\overset{£}{\text{℔}}$ Ann to be imployed in our sorting Office, or in our Custome house or otherwise where our Generall and President shall think such a man may do us the best service, whom we intend hereafter to advance with the growth of his Experience.

10. M^{r}. Pitts We hope is a good man, but his expences at Atcheen were excessive, and more then such a poor Cargoe could bear, We must desire your better care in such cases hereafter.

11. We like not the end you made of M^{r}. Davis's busyness, and M^{r}. Littleton was infinitely to blame for declining to state the Damage upon the Callicoes M^{r}. Davis bought or sorted, for which no Apology can be made. All that was or can be expected from him in such a Case being but to compute the damage justly, according to the best of his knowledge or beliefe, and in denying that, he ought not to have continued a day longer in our service. This is the 2^{d} great fault we have excused M^{r}. Littleton of, being satisfied his good nature was wrought upon by the fflattery and Cunning of designing men that intended no Good to the Company or himself, and we hope for y^{e} future he wilbe more wary of falling into such snares.

12. All the Mony paid M^{r} Barron and his wife we shall put to President Gyffords acco^{t}. who had then the only power of our Cash, and had no order from us or any rule to justify him to pay mony to a man that was none of our servant, and from whom we had neither Goods nor Service, He might as well have given it away to his own ffriends or Servants and pretend an Order of Councill procured by himself for his Justification.

13. We have by this time, we hope, sufficiently vindicated our Nation from the reproach of Cowardize, and secured all our ancient Priviledges in India at the Companyes excessive Charge, And as the end of all just War is Peace, We would have you now imbrace all Offers & opportunityes of making an hon^{ble}. Peace or Truce with any of the Native Nations wth whom you are at variance, hoping our Generall and Councill of Bombay have before this taken our satisfaction from Ally Raja for the old Robbery he committed upon Us.

14. The Benjamin is outward bound to stop at S^{t} Helena to carry the necessary Orders and some Recruits to that Island, so that probably the Herbert may arrive at Bombay about the same time with y^{e} Benj^{a}. and we cannot doubt but our Gen^{ll}. hath left such good directions with our President and Councill at

Bombay, that those two ships will meet with such good Imployment in the Country, as will much more then defray the charge of their Demorage, while they returne to us w^th^. The rest of our ships that have been longest abroad, and with them, all the prize Goods remaining upon their hands being according to our former Orders first appraised and repacked. ffor now we have been sending out liberally for a long time, and disburseing great sumes upon Soldiers, Ammunition, ships ffreights, & great Demorages, Its high time we should be reaping the fruit and returnes thereof, & therefore we desire You to hasten to us as large Returnes as possibly you can from Bengall & Choromandell, and by your Orders from all other parts of India.

15. We do extreamly mislike your giving permission to any to come home that you have any Controversie with upon any security whatever, untill such delinquent persons have first made the Comp^a^. satisfaction & setled their Acco^ts^. either by Arbitracõn or due Course of Law, and this we order as a positive Rule to be alwayes observed by you hereafter.

16. Vizagapatam ffactory we esteem worth the keeping & improving, and would have you send M^r^ Hatsell (whom we have named before to be youngest of your Councill) to be Chief of that ffactory; and two others whom you know to be of sound principles of fidelity to be 2^d^ and 3^d^ to him of that Councill of Vizagapatam, and discharge M^r^ Brown from our service giving him leave to stay at the ffort or returne home at his choice after he hath adjusted his Acco^ts^. with the Company and paid you the ballance.

17. If M^r^ Johnson be so ignorant and idle a ffellow as you represent him (which we are affraid is too true) discharge him our service & leave him to dispose of himself as he thinks fitt, It being a madness to give the Companyes wages or Dyet to such useless men, which we desire you to observe as a standing rule with respect to others likewise that deserve no better of the Company then he did.

18. Least we should streighten you too much in making us returnes from the Coast, having before in this Letter named to you only Long Cloth, Sallampores and Sailcloth, which are the principall we want, We think it necessary to add that Romalls are likewise a good Commodity, and that you may send us of all other kinds of Choromandell Goods according to the last List we sent You, untill you receive further directions from us which we intend you by the Herbert viâ Bombay.

19. We observe your Consultacõn concerning the Farme and Territory of S^t^. Thoma, but we are not for taking a ffarme of it for one year, nor for so little as 4 or 5 years, if you can help it, but a perpetuall ffarme that the Company may hope to injoy the future benefitt of the Improvements they shall make of it as we now do of Madrass.

20. Last year went over Charles Barwell in the quality of a free merch^t^. of whom our Book keeper M^r^. Beyer gives us so good a Character, that we are content you should admitt him to commence ffactor in our service after receipt of this Letter.

21. There is likewise as we are informed in Bengall one Samuell Pines who hath served the Company 10 years. Write to our Agent in Bengall to admitt him to be a ffactor upon such security as he can procure in the Country, his Relations here being unable.

22. You will see in our Pacquett the Invoice and Bill of loading of what we have sent you for the Companyes acco^t^. as also M^r^. Beyers Observations upon your subordinate ffactoryes which are sufficient to convince you of the necessity we are under of reducing our out ffactoryes to a small number, especially not to maintaine any too near together, except you would so governe them as to have more Thrift used in them, Which Reduction of the unnecessary and more Thrift in those you continue we recommend to your especiall Care, according to what we

wrote more largely over land to our Generall and Councill of Bombay of which you have now the Copies.

23. But we cannot doubt when you have setled Vizagapatam in good hands, but that place may as profitably invest 50,000 Pag°; as 20,000, & we need not tell you that a great Investment will much better bear the Charge of a ffactory than a small one.

24. Sticklack of all sorts, but especially that from Pegu, and that clear sort of Shellack we used to have from Cassumbuzar, are very good Commodities at present, and we are apt to think some Sticklack may be procured at Vizagapatam if it be bespoke and bought in by small parcells, but however to have a quantity, forget not to give the needfull Orders to Bombay.

25. We gave our worthy Generall Authority before his leaving Bombay at his own single discretion, with or without the advice of any of our Councill to place or displace, advance or depress any of our Councill^rs^. ffactors or Servants, within the usuall bounds of our late Presidency of Surratt, now of Bombay, To the end, that all our Affairs might be setled in faithfull sober hands, and of such as were peaceable & would be at Unity among themselves in a just & righteous way, not in such a sinfull Peace as was formerly meant by that Madrass Proverb (Peace and Pagodoes) That Authority our Generall hath managed with such wisdome, moderation and Justice as hath attained all the ends we aimed at by it on that side of India, And therefore we think fit to give the said S^r^. John Child our Gen^ll^. of India the like Authority over all our Councillours ffactors and Servants on the Coast of Choromandell and in Bengall to be exercised according to his single discretion at the ffort, and in all other places upon the Coast of Choromandell at any time or times within 6 months after his receipt of this Letter or after his first Arrivall at the ffort, and in Bengall at any time or times within 6 months after his Arrivall there, and what ever our said Generall shall order or direct, and whomsover he shall (pursuant to his order) place or displace, shall stand and remain for good & well done, as if it were directed and ordered by ourselves immediately.

26. You will hear of the great Change that it hath pleased God by his wonderfull providence to make in the Government of this Nation, and before this ship departs we may have occasion to write you more thereof when the Lords and Commons have bounded and finisht the intended settlement of the Prince and Princess of Orange whom the Lords have voted to be King and Queen of this Realm, But now we only mention this in *Transitu* for an occasion to tell you that the Interlopers and other Maligners of the Company are very busy, and pretend great matters they will do shortly by complaints of y^e^ Comp^as^. management; a lightness and vanity which they have always abounded in, especially upon every Change of the Government or lesser Changes of Ministers of State or ffavourites; But their boastings have alwayes come to nought, and so they will now; all Governments being wiser than to be swayed by such irregular disorderly vain men, though they may sometimes seem to give them a little ear and Countenance for reasons not to be mencoñed, as also for the inlargement of their own understanding in so obstruce an Affaire as that of the East Indies is to Noblemen and Gentlemen that have not been conversant in busyness of that nature. We hint this to you to prevent any of you or of our other servants being deceived or perverted by such Advices as may be writt from hence by discontented men, as some windy heads of our Servants in India have been often already to their own as well as our Detriment, yet such is the ffolly of some unstable minds that are uneasy under a steady righteous Government, that thô they have been frequently frustrated of their expectations, they are capable of being deceived again by the self same methods as they have often been deceived with already, which Caution we give you for your own sakes more then for the Companyes.

27. You will have from our Secretary a List of the ffrench Protestant Officers and Soldiers we have sent you by the Chandos, and the termes on which they are entertained, many of them are quite wearyed with y^e^ ships staying so

long in the River, so we cannot tell who will proceed upon her, nor who will absent themselves, to those that goe we wonld have you give such sallaryes and Wages [as] we have agreed, but nothing more upon any importunity, for we find them a craving people. that will never leave asking new favours after they are agreed with, if we would be so weak as to give ear to their impertinences, against which humour of theirs you must arm yourselves.

28. The reason of our first entertaining them is in some measure ceased by the harmony that is at present, between this Kingdom & y^e^. Netherlands, but it is not impolitique at all times to have some mixture of soldiers in such remote Garisons as the Dutch have in all theirs in India.

29. We know not what to direct positively concerning the Diamond trade, as to its being kept at the Mines or brought to the ffort, If the latter could be done naturally and kindly without constraint or damage to any person we should like it best, but when any Merchant hath paid us our full Customes and other Dutyes, equall with what any of us pay ourselves upon any permissive trade we drive from hence or in India, we would have them as free in all respects as the Govern^r^. or Dep^ty^. Gov^r^. or any of the Committees themselves, if they were upon y^e^. place, and no difference of Custome between the Companies servants & other strangers inhabiting with us in India, & particularly M^r^. Rodrigues his house we would have you countenance as much as any for their forwardness to promote your late establisht Corporation, and promptness to any publick good work that tends to the Ornament or Defence of that City, but let all conforming to our Laws have perfect Justice, and if any one man be permitted to goe up to the Mines, let all have the same that desire it; and if you believe forbidding all or any from goeing to the Mines may put any Check or Abatement to that Trade, as we have been told it doth, and fear it may, so would have you forbid none.

30. Neither detaine any free Merchant's Corrall or other Goods sent from hence longer than needs must to have the same examined, except you have cause to believe they are undervalued here in our permission [rates] because all we intend by that [condition] of taking such Goods in India to our own Acco^t^. is only to secure our selves from being cheated here in the undervaluing them to us, or producing feigned Invoices to us, and not to take the Advantage of any good market the Goods may come to, to the prejudice of the Owners here.

31. You at the ffort were abundantly too hasty to seek Peace, which you would have been courted for as our Gen^ll^. at Bombay was by one of the greatest Relations to the Mogol, if you had had but Patience to let nature work, ffor the Mogols numerous poor subjects and his Merchants were so distressed for want of Trade that he was noe longer able to endure their Lamentations; And M^r^. Charnock, after he had agreed the Articles of Peace, was too diffident of their performance, because he had not so soon as he would the Phirmaund from y^e^. Mogol to confirm them, which there was no reason for him to expect, untill the Peace was also adjusted at Surratt, and by that diffidence of Agent Charnock the Company suffered a great deal for want of the Trade they might have had in the Bay, while they had mony and ships enough there, but we must confess being so ill used as he had been before at Cassambuzar, he had reason to be more than ordinarily cautious.

32. We hope you have setled our Corporation at Madrass in good order & would desire your Care to put the Mayor and Aldren to satisfy M^r^. Rodrigues what he disburst here for their Maces.

33. We have no manner of doubt of the continuance of our Peace in all the Mogolls Dominions, and therefore we think the sooner Agent Charnock resettles the ffactoryes of Cassumbuzar & Maulda, from whence we used to have our best returnes, the better it wilbe for the Comp^a^. And since he likes Chuttanuttee so well, we are content he should build a ffactory there, but with as much frugality as may be, and we hope he will so contrive that busyness as the Dutyes of that Town being to be the Comp^as^. by the Bengall Articles, They may in some few years reimburse us the Charge of our new ffactory, and possibly he may find it

necessary to continue a small ffactory at Hughly likewise, but that we must leave to his and Councills discretion at present, and to our Generall's hereafter, if it pleases God in his due time to arrive him safely in Beng[ll].

34. M[r]. Sam[ll]. Charlton (whose son Joshua Charlton dy'd in our service at Bencoolen, after he had serv'd as severall years at the ffort) making application unto us, that the Estate belonging to his sonne intrusted w[th]. M[r]. John Gray or any others may be secured for him, and brought into our Cash, and remitted to him by Bills of Exchange, We desire according to the representation of that busyness herewith sent, that you will call M[r]. Gray, and all others concern'd, to an Acco[t]. and cause what is just and right to be done unto him by the next shipping that you dispeed for England which will reflect honour upon us and be a great Encouragem[t]. [to the Friends] and Relations of those [who engage] in our Service.

35. We also recommend unto your Care the Case of M[rs]. Anna Peddy Wid[u]. mencõned in her Petiçon whose Husband was an Ensign with you, and lost his life in the Bay, that what Estate he left behind may be secured and brought into our Cash and return'd home for her Acco[t].

36. We have entertained M[r]. W[m]. Bland and M[r]. John Brabourn to serve us as ffactors, and Stanhope Mills, Will[m]. Anth[o]. Teshmaker, Joseph Lister, John Henchman, Edward Bawgus, and W[m]. Vanden Ancker, as Writers upon our usual Terms, who take their Passage on this ship Chandos.

37. We have permitted M[rs]. Eliz[a]. Child whose Husband is Chief Mate of the Amity, with her 3 Children, to take Passage on this ship, and have furnisht her with £20 at Bottomree to be repaid Us by her Husband at his first Arrivall at Bombay or the ffort, and have taken 3 Bills or Acknowledgments thereof under her hand, One whereof you will herew[th]. receive, and the other shall goe by the next Conveyance.

38. Let directions be given for the future that an Index or Table be made to all the Copy Books of Letters and Consultacons that are sent unto Us, which wilbe very usefull, And let an exact List of all our ffactors & Writers be transmitted by every ship, and of such as shall happen to be deceased, and in transcribing of all your Letters and Copyes of what shall come unto us We would have a quarter Margent left for abstracting the same.

39. We have taken into our serious Consideration the charge of working Iron at Bombay w[ch]. appears very great considering the Iron stands us in 15 or 16 £ ℔ ton, all Charges aboard, and we reckon that near a Chaldron of Coals may be spent in working of a Ton of Barrs into usefull wrought Iron, which Chaldron of Coals costing here about 20[s] & accompting six pounds for the freight thereof, being a great Ton, and adding to that the workmanship there, which we reckon 20 £ Every ton of Iron wrought in those fforges will stand us in forty-two pounds ℔ ton, whereas we can buy wrought Iron here at 25 £ ℔ ton to which 6 £ added for freight makes 31 £, from whence we conclude we shall save considerably by sending thither Iron ready wrought into the most usefull kinds, and for y[t]. purpose, have agreed for the severall sorts and qualities following to be sent to Bombay by the Herbert, Viz[t].

Weights	Nailes		
		d	
2 Tons	of 5 Inches long	1 of 40	1 of Hookes & hinges
2	of 6	5 of Inch Bolts	1 of Cross Garnetts
1	of 7	10 of Inch & q[r].	0½ of Marlin spikes
1	of 8	15 of Inch & half	1 of Iron Crowes
1	[9. 10.] 11. 12.	10 do. ¾	0½ of Tackle Hookes
1	[of 2] nails.	5 of 2 Inches	1 of Pick Axes
1	[of 30] do.	1 of Fort hinges.	0½ of Mattocks

Tons 61½ All at 25 £ ℔ ton.

We know Iron is cheaper on your side of India, than it is at Bombay especially in Bengall, but it is brittle & not so good as what we send from hence, and therefore we incline to believe such Iron worke as is aforesaid considering the number of your Country ships may be a good Commodity for the Company to send from hence, and that large quantities thereof, as well as of smaller Ironwares, may yearly vend wth. you for good profitt, for which purpose we have meficoned this matter so particularly to you, that if you find it as we suppose, you may send us every year a Memoriall or Demand of what Iron Wares ready wrought will sell with you to good advance, and the rather because such Commodities are our own Manufacture, and are very proper to ballast our ships. In which List or Memoriall you may likewise insert what other sorts of smaller Iron wares you can put off, such as sheathing Nailes, sharp nailes of all sorts, Locks and Hinges of all sorts, Axes, Sawes, Edge tools &c^{a}.

40. We are very sensible it wilbe difficult for us to bespeak Bolts to be made of just lengths for all occasions, which must answer exactly to the thickness of ships Planke and Timber where they are to be used, and therefore we have ordered Bolt heads to be made at the end of each Bolt-barr, that such as have occasion of them may cut them to their own Lengths.

41. We did last year dismiss M^{r}. Trenchfield from our service, not out of any Offence we had taken against him, Thô we have too much suspected his intimacy and ffriendship with M^{r}. Littleton and others that did openly and secretly endeavour to cross all our Agent M^{r}. Charnock's Affaires and diligence for our Advantage, and was of Councill with those that fomented the Native Gov^{rs}. to affront and interrupt M^{r}. Charnock in our busyness; This is what we had reason to suspect, but now to tell you what we know we have seen by M^{r}. Trenchfield's own Letters that he hath a violent Picque and prejudice against M^{r}. Charnock w^{ch}. may create or revive the old Divisions and ffactions we have for 20 years been afflicted with in Bengall, which we are resolved never again to endure, But to root out the first seeds or appearance of any such matter, [however,] at the request of M^{r}. Trenchfields Brother for his restoration [to our service], we are willing, that if M^{r}. Trenchfield desire it, Our [Generall should] take him down with him to Bengall and imploy him [there in such] place as he thinks may be best for our service Provided [he finds that] he can [make a perfect] Reconciliacon at heart between [M^{r}. Sharnock and M^{r}. Trenchfield, but] if our Gen^{ll}. doubts that, we would not have him upon any faint hopes, or any thing less than a perfect assurance make such a dangerous experiment. The experience we have of M^{r}. Charnock for 34 years past, and finding all that hate us to be enemies to him, having wrought such a Confidence in our minds concerning him, that we shall not upon any ordinary suggestions against him, change our antient and constant opinion of his fidelity to our Interest.

42. We would have you bespeak all the Goods proper for this Market, y^{t}. our Company of black Merchants at the ffort can possibly provide, though you give them a little more than you can have the same Goods for in out ffactoryes, for the following reasons.

ffirst, Because they are our subjects under their Ma$^{ty's}$. and what they get enriches our City of Madrass.

Secondly, We are surer now of the fidelity of our sorters at the ffort than we can be in any subordinate ffactoryes.

Give them all the time you can to be providing Long Cloth and Sallampores throughout the year, that the Poor of Madrass may never want work, which will encrease your Inhabitants, & we would have you endeavour very effectually to set that society of black Merchants upon making Bengall Taffaties, and if they have not the way of Dyeing to begin the worke, you may make an experiment of sending us two or 3,000 p^{s}. of Raw Taffaties made in Madrass.

43. It is said the Dutch bought at Metchlepatam many of the prime workmen, Weavers, Painters &c^{a}. in the time of the Dearth & transported them to

their Colonyes, Had you used the same foresight, you might doubtless have much increased the trade of our City of Madrass.

44. The China Bowles you sent us by the Beaufort and other China Wares were all too dear, buy no more such Commodities for us, but you may send if you will China Goods for your own Acco^{ts}. upon the Indulgencies we have granted to others, and send for our Acco^{t}. only such as come for our Acco^{t}. from China, & are saleable in Europe.

45. That unrighteous Verdict against M^{r}. Cawley for saying what was truth, and doing but his duty in saying what he did, confirms our Judgm^{ts}. of the ffolly of transplanting our English Lawes into a dispoticall Country & therefore we make & ordain for a standing law, to prevent any honest mans suffering in the like kind for the future, y^{t}. whoever shall find themselves agrieved hereafter by the Verdict [of any] Jury in personall Actions shall have liberty to appeal to our Court of Admiralty, w^{ch}. is our supream Court of Equity, w^{ch}. Court we do hereby impower to stay Execucõn & to give reliefe in all such Cases, according to Equity and good Conscience and to discharge [and vacate all Verdicts that they] think in their Cons[siences] unreasonable or injurious and to confirme such as they find just and equitable.

46. Besides long Cloth and Sallampores before mentioned, the Goods most wanted at present from your Coast are Izzarees,[1] Romalls Cotton y^{e}. large sort, send no Cotton Romalls of the small sort, they all lye by us unsould, of Red Goods the most now wanted are Allejaes,[2] Saderguntees,[3] Saderuncheras,[4] Calloway Poose.[5] ffrom Bengall the Goods most wanted, besides what is before writt, are fine clear Shellack such as we formerly had from Cassimbuzar, procure and send of it all you can gett, to be putt in Casks or Chests to prevent running together, Sticklack of Pegu if you can get so much 100 Tons. ffine Muslins of all sorts, fine Doreas, Ordinary Nillaes,[7] Ginghams[8], Coloured Taffaties, Romalls of all sorts Gurrub & Sute, Chercoles,[9] Chucklaes,[10] Humhums[11] very fine, and superfine, but no ordinary, Sannoes[12] of all sorts, if you can buy them cheaper by 20 ℘ Cent then formerly, which Note we give upon Sannoes, because we have found ourselves much defrauded in the price of them heretofore. ffrom Bombay, besides what already hinted, Aloes Soccatrina, Cirques Indico round and flatt, Benjamin, Cardamons, Cotton Yarn fine from N°. 1 to N°. 8 and midling Cotton Yarn from Letter D to Letter H or Letter I at farthest, long and short Niccannees,[13] Broad Tapsieles,[14] Broad Bafts[15] black and Ardeas, all manner of book Cloth, as Bafts broad & narrow, Dungarees,[16] Blew Bafts besides Brawls, Guinea stuffs,[17] & almost all other measured Goods, that you have at any time sent from Surratt are now wanting, so that you cannot hardly send us any thing amiss, that is good in its kind and well bought, as we have often said, & cannot mention too often, having had so many Rowalue Bettellees and other dear Bettellees sent us from the ffort, after we had forbid the sending us any at all, and had enough by us for 3 or 4 years, as we have yet.

We have found it by long and chargeable experience that Dyers and Throwsters in Bengall are a great expence to the Company, & work but very little for us, The most they do is for other people, & therefore we desire you to recall them to the ffort and send them home from thence, or rather directly from the Bay, except they desire to stay in the Country upon their own Acco^{ts}. as ffreemen, being discharged from any further sallary or [diet] from the Comp^{a}.

1. From P. *izār*, 'drawers, trousers'—*Hobson-Jobson*, p. 707.
2–5, 9, 12–14, 17. Varieties of piece-goods.
7. From *Nīlā*. 'blue.' A kind of blue cloth. *Hobson-Jobson*, p. 708.
8. A kind of stuff made from cotton yarn, mixed sometimes with some other material, and dyed before being woven. *Hobson-Jobson*, p. 375.
10. A kind of cloth made of silk and cotton. *Hobson-Jobson*, p. 706.
11. From *hammām*, 'a Turkish bath.' Cloth of a thick, stout texture. *Hobson-Jobson*, p. 707.
15. From *bafta*, 'Woven.' A kind of calico especially made at Baroch. *Hobson-Jobson*, p. 47.
16. A kind of coarse and inferior cotton cloth. *Hobson-Jobson*, p. 330.

We find that severall of your subordinate ffactoryes are very remiss in sending their [Books] of Accompts to your Presidency, and sometimes [when they] send them, it is after the closure of your books, which caused [most of their Acco^{ts}. in your last Books D. D. not to be compared] nor evened, and which is worse sometimes They omitt sending any books for the whole year as Conimere, from whence we have no books further than Aprill 1685, which causes a great deal of Confusion in your books there, and Dissatisfaction here, To prevent which, We do order that henceforward every ffactory that doth not send their books within two Months after the last of Aprill, The Chief and Second for the time being shall be fined 30 Pag^{s}. each man, which is not to be remitted unless they shall make Oath that their books were ready by the last day of May, but if their Books shall not be sent within six months, their ffine shalbe double, and if within the next following six months they do not send their Books perfected for both years, expell them our service as persons unfitt or uncapable of discharging such a Trust. So commending you and our Affairs to y^{e}. Guidance of the Almighty We remain.

Wee send you herewith 20 Proclamations of our new King & Queen to whom we wish all happiness, & hereby require you to make solemn Proclamation of them according to the usuall form in such extraordinary cases, & cause the like to be done at our chief Factory in Bengall, and at our Forts upon the West Coast with all due solemnity.

Your Very Loving Friends,

CHARDOS.
JOSEPH HERNE.
RO: MARSHALL.
W^{M}. DES BOUVERIE.
THOMAS BOON.
JOHN COOKE.
JOS^{A}. CHILD: Jun^{r}:
R. HUTCHINSON Ju^{r}.
THOMAS COOKE.
GEORGE BOUN.
NATHANIEL TENCHE.

BENJA^{N} BATHURST Gov^{r}.
JOS^{A}. CHILD Dep^{y}.
THO: RAWLINSON.
R^{T}. HUTCHINSON.
JOHN GOODERE.

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT S^{T}. GEORGE, DATED SEP^{R}. 11, 1689. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 10, *pp.* 1–13.]

LONDON THE 11$_{TH}$ SEPTEMBER 1689

OUR GENERALL OF INDIA AND OUR PRESIDENT AND [COUNCILL] OF FORT S^{T}. GEORGE.

1. Wee are now to answer yours of the 30th of September & 14th October by y^{e} Bengall which ship arrived with us the 29th of July together with the Loyall Merchant from China, y^{e} little James from Bencoolen, & Tonqueen from Bombay for which God be praised. [Sh]ipps arrived.

2. The first particular wee meet with is y^{e} account you give us of the increase of our Revenue which is acceptable to us, but yet wee must say if the Dutch had such a place as Madrass is & so well supplied as wee have supplied & fortified that they would think themselves ill served if they did not receive from it towards the settlement of other places and increase of their Dominion in India besides the charge of the Garrison one Hundred Thousand Pounds Sterling ℔ annum and so much Wee do believe that place is capable of in time with prudent contrivance & [such] insensible new excizes or Duties which they would draw from the Inhabitants & Traders without burthen or vexation to any much less without depopulating the place as you see Batavia is not depopulated thô all persons pay there at least ten times more proportionably then they do at Madrass. Madras. Improvemt.

3. And whereas you say your Revenue at present exceeds your Garrison charges which may be true with respect to the Garrison [charges you disburse there, It is a great mistake if you understand] by that the whole charge of that Garrison; for more then halfe the charge is paid by us here in sending out souldiers Armes Ammunition Medicaments & severall other expences which it would be too tedious to enumerate. greater yn. [. . .] charges and [. . .]

4. As your Customes are settled so we resolve to continue them to all persons equally without distinction of the Comp^{as}. servants English or any foreigners never intending to raise or abate in Customes & althô we know the Traders disburse the Customes in all Countries, the consumers of any commodity at long run pay them. [Customes] not to be [altered].

5. Wee have Letters & other methods of Intelligence from most of your considerable Inhabitants & none of them do complaine of the Duties wee have imposed or of yourselves for useing violent means to extort them, but some of them do complain of the monopolizeing of Provisions for the private advantage of particular men & keeping Rice up to a high price while the Comp^{as}: Rice lyes decaying by time & other accidents which might be sold to good advance & turned into money to the ease and great accomodation [of] the Inhabitants. Wee hope there is no truth in this complaint or not so much cause as is pretended but if there be any thing in it (as there is seldome a great smoke without some fire) we desire youre care & such selfe Deniall hereafter that it may never be soe again. Complaint of monopolizing provisions.

6. Wee must never suffer the Portuguez to nestle quietly in S^{t}. Tho[ma, but give] them such interuptions & molestations perpetually or such a totall [subsversion when] a proper season shall present for it as shall render that place too hot [for them but] whether this be to be done by farming the place ourselves which [seems the most] probable way at present or by force or by any other means we [must leave to our] Generalls and your discretions. Molest Portuguez att S^{t}: Thoma.

7. The next ship wee send you if we can get her out soon enough [we intend shall] stop at S^{t}. Helena & bring you some Inhabitants of both sexes from thence. sending inhabitants from S^{t}: Helena.

8. Your hasty sending up to beg or buy a peace to Gulcondah as we [apprehended] at first sight was a very pernicious attempt. You did in that cons[ult self and] not y^{e}. honour of your Countery or the Comp^{as}. good & thereby made [the Courtiers so] high as to repent y^{e}. peace they had made with our Generall att [Bombay and] with our Agent at Bengall & inded no designe of your own heads

[without our] order had or was ever like to have good success if you had proceeded [upon it] such would have been your settlement at Pegu your unseasonab[le] designed settlement at Negrais & upon the Island near Succadana, which [it was well] our orders came timely to prevent: The ground of all which mistakes [was not] any defect in your understanding but your too violent inclination [to sell] Interest abstracted from y^e^. publick good; wherefore we do [absolutely order] that for the future you fortifie no new place nor settle any new [factory] in any part of India on the Comp^as^: charge without our own [express order] in writeing for so doing or the order of our Generall S^r^. John [Child.]

Noe place to bee settled or fortifyed wth: out Compas: ordrs: in writing.

Settlemt: att Conimeer and Mr: Nickes Governt: approved Caucon abt: Mrs: Nickes and Customes to bee ye. same as att Madrass. If we find she makes [. . .].

9. Wee approve of the fortifieing of Conimeer since it is done, but [such a] fortification would have been an Hundred times better for y^e^: Com[pany if] it had been a hundred Leagues farther to the southward. Conim[eer] being so near the Court that we have reason to suspect confederacies [between] your black Merchants and those at Conimer if you doe not honest[ly] and carefully prevent it. M^r^. Nicks's Chief ship at Conimeer we do [likewise] confirm on condition that you and he do carefully prevent y^e^. Comp^as^. prejudice by his Wife's crafty trading which we understand y^e^. methods of and cannot beare if we find she makes her gains by our loss, thô otherwise we are allwaies glad to hear our servants get money honestly without prejudice to the Comp^a^: And since we have now been at the charge to fortify Conimeer we expect y^e^. same Duties to be paid us there proportionably as at Madrass which you and M^r^: Nicks are to take care we be not defrauded of.

No Europe goods to bee sent till all allready sent are sold.

10. Our Europe goods you will now have leisure enough to dispose of at good rates, for we shall send you but small supplies till we hear you have swept our Warehouses clean of all remains.

No encouragmt: to improve Vizagapatam and why:

[fort] Generall. Vizagapatam to bee improved upon ye. some tenure at Madras.

11. Wee believe the pursuit of M^r^: Browns private ends [was the] cause of our losse by the Farm of Vizagapatam & concur with you in opinion that it is to no purpose to make any great improvement by buildings or otherwise at that place or indeed at any other which We cannot have upon such like termes as we hold Fort S^t^. [George] or as the Dutch and Portuguez enjoy their Townes at Negapatam [Zeiloon] the Coast of India Mallabar &c. in which we do not include Pollica[t] because hitherto they have enjoyed that place upon worse termes than they do any other Towne in India or we would be contented with any where with the charge of a Garrison But if hereafter you can obtain such like termes for Vizagapatam as we have for Fort S^t^. George wee think it may be worth y^e^. fortifying being a place abounding with provisions & at a competent distance from Fort S^t^. George.

Ship Bengall to allow for not loading Rice.

Wee shall deduct from y^e^. Commander of the Bengall what we [lost] by his not takeing in his full loading of Rice for the Comp^as^: accout.

Green Cloth to bee sent to Bombay &ca. Merchts: releasmts: and contract [appro]-ved of.

If our Green Cloath which you say is useless at the Fort be any part of it undisposed at our Generalls arrivall with you we hope he hath sent it to Bombay or Persia, or otherwise disposed of it better or worse for to let it lye by to be eaten by your white Ants is a dead Losse.

[Callicoes] much wanted

Wee like well the resettlement of your Comp^a^: of black Merchants & the contract you have made with them, but we though[t] it would have been for at least double the quantity of those sorts of Callicoes you [mention] which are now much wanted here and will continue a great commodi[ty] till our Ware-Houses are well replenished again.

Your delay in coining silver Coins for Sumatra &c^{a}: are a disappointm^{t}. & Losse to us, speedy execution of what you have our positive order for we alwayes expect from you and pray let it be so for the future.

of Silver coynes a [. . . .] to affairs, att [. . . .] Compas: ordrs: to bee [. . . . obey'd.

Our Presidents charitable bounty to seamen at Johanna we wish may find its desired effect as to their healths, and if it prove so it shall not want furtherance on the Companies charge.

[. . . .] to Sailers and Compas: men.

The Cloath you desire as alsoe some Vermillion & Quicksilver [shall] be sent by the first ship but we dare not send so much least your [great] Trade from China where Vermillion & Quicksilver are usually to [be] had on Cheaper Termes than in Europe should spoil our markets [at] the Fort or yours both which we would avoid being as much for your good in your honest undertakings as for your owne.

[. . . .] sent but not wt: desir'd.

Altho' we have hitherto been most unfortunate in Bengall we cannot charge M^{r}: Charnock with any dishonesty & are therefore very sorry you did not consigne your permissive adventure to him in Chief joyning others that you liked with him althô we did not absolutely by our order of permission [enjoyn] you or others to it It being as fatall in India to make [two] capitall English buyers as it would be here to make 2 English sellers of East India goods which is in effect two East India Comp^{as}: M^{r}: Charnocks great mistake & our Loss for want of Bengall goods proceeds from an old Notion not only of his but of other English mens that by forbearing Trade in the Bay we shall compel the Natives to confirme the twelve Articles of peace agreed with him & taking that Notion for good he argues well & rightly that permitting others to [trade] spoils that game of the Comp^{as}: but he does not at the same time consider what a mighty charge of Demorage of ships & sloops loss of men & maint[ena]nce of Factories y^{e}: Comp^{a}: is at waiting y^{e}: Moors leisure for confirmation of our Articles which we shall never bring them to by such chargable delays, but were better to bring away all our ships & put a finall end to all the [Companies] charge in Bengall except the Banksall at Ballasore taken by Captain Heath which we may keep if we are able to defend it as we do Fort St. George and raise a revenue & a numerous Inhabitants there from whence there is no [doubt] but most sorts of Goods would be brought us from the upper parts of the Ganges for our money & if it be objected that the poverty of the people is such that they cannot provide goods except money be delivered out [to them] beforehand, we say 1st: Wee know they are not all so poor but that in [any goods may] be bought ready made as we find by evident instances & discourse [with] Captain Bowry and others considerably cheaper & better than ever [we] bought them when we gave out our money beforehand and were at [such] excessive charges in building and maintaining many large Factories great [and] constant presents sloops Pilots & a hundred other charges. 2^{ly}: We say [in such] a case of holding the Banksall at Ballasore by force & mainta[in]ing that place only in all Bengall our force Riches & charge will be united & [by the] multiplying of people we may create a Revenue to support that [charge, we] shall not have so many cheats put upon us as are basely practised [in] most subordinate Factories & untill the course of trade be settled betw[een] the upper Townes of the Ganges & Ballasore we shall be competently [supplied with] goods from Benharris, Pattana, Dacca, Maulda, & Cassimbuzar [by the] permissive Trade allowed to Armenians, Portuguez, Banians, Jews, [English and] it may be Dutch & French which will remaine in Bengall & [be glad of] correspondence & other means of getting money by the English, [of which there] are some & amoung them Parson Evans and M^{r}. Trenchfield [and others] which have all this time of trouble in the Bay maintained too [fair a] correspondence with the Natives in secret opposition to M^{r}. [Charnock's innocent] & sincere designs & purposes for the publick good out of which [evill this good]

charged with [. . . .] Bengall.

[. . . .] in India not [. . . .] and raison why.

[Char] nocks method pro[. . .] articles of peace not [. . .].

[. . .] att Ballasore if [. . .] eable.

[Goods] procurable for money much [ch]eaper yn advancing money [to] merchants before hand 1st prevent several large expences.

[. . . . Evans &ca: correspond- ence] [. . .

Continue till articles[. . .] confirmed by ye. [Moguls.]

may emerge by accident not by their good purpose or foresight [that while] we stand at defiance with the Moors in Bengall (as we [are] resolved to do untill those Articles of peace made with us are confirmed by y^e^. [Moguls] Phirmaund) such separate Englishmen as those we have before mention^d^. may remain and Trade in the Country not as the Comp^as^. servants nor at the Comp^as^. charge, but as free men which may profitt themselves & much further the permissive Trade we do allow to English & all Nations during the war by which upon arrivall here we gain as much as we will be contented with for the commodities of Bengall rather than sneak or bribe or submit to any thing dishonourable to our Nation or the Comp^a^. or any thing less then is contained in those Twelve Articles which were agreed & signed mutually by Agent Charnock & y[^e^.] Nabobs Deputies upon y^e^. close of a chargable War which cost the Comp^a^. *viss & modis* above five Hundred thousand Pounds besides the Loss of a great many brave English mens lives, neither will we give any present to the new Nabob for obtaining any such Phirmaund but stand upon it in point of right as due to us & to be delivered us without charge, for to make any base submission to them at this time & trust our money abroad again in their sub[j]ects hands would but encourage them to surprise us again & use us worse than ever they did before.

Private traders allowed, but not att ye. Compas. charge.

If Ballasore not to bee kept, in y^t^. trade not amounting ye. charge yn. to with. dr^a^w from thence.

[Te seize] upon yo. Moores by way of reprizall.

And if upon due consideration our Generall yourselves & our Agent in Bengall should apprehend that we are unable by force to hold & fortifiy our Banksall &c^a^. at Ballasore or that the Trade we shall thereby have will not be worth so great, a charge in such case you may quit that likewise & put a finall end [to all] y^e^. Comp^as^. charge in Bengall ordering all our people & effects to Fort S^t^. George & Bombay & continue by sloops & otherwise to gall & affront the Moors in Bengall on the shoar & at sea as you have opportunity with little charge by commissions to private ships & otherwise which we doubt not but will in a little time bring them to do right to us and themselves in the confirmation of the agreement made with them, & in the mean time haveing peace with y^e^. Moors on Surrat side we doubt not but to supply these Marketts competently with Bengall goods by the permissive Trade we allow and some permissive ships we shall give leave to sail from hence directly for Bengall & home & to find our account in it as well as ever we did in times of peace in Vincents or any of his Predecessors times considering y^e^. vast charge we shall be eased of by this method which in the most peaceable times did amount to y^e^. nearest we can compute [one-third] part of y^e^. cost of our whole Investments. Thus you have our Opinion & resolution in this weighty concern wherein upon much consideration & conference with the most experienced persons we think our selves extreamly in y^e^. right, yet if it please God to be so propitious to us that our worthy Generall be alive & with you or on that side of India when this Letter arrives, Wee leave it to him, being upon the place, to alter or take any other measures in this great affair that he shall judge more for our advantage.

Permissive trade allowed.

Generals power to act as he shall thinke proper.

Permissive trade very profitable.

Captain Bowry and others that have brought home Bengall goods upon our permission will we conclude gain cent ℘ cent by them over and above y^e^. allowance for our permission, which causeth some to repent that slipt that opportunity of returning their effects for England.

Mr. Bloomes character from ye. Compa. his removall not liked.

Reasons why.

Wee have a great esteem for M^r^. Bloome & he shall never want our great commendation & encouragement, but we are extreamly sorry & account it y^e^. worst news we have from India by y^e^. Bengall that you should in the least incline to remove him from Bencoolen at y^e^. instance of Jeanpatwan or for any other ca[use] settling & unsettling destroys our stock, all new places kill our Counterymen & tis a long time in a new place before our people are acquainted & have any competent understanding with y^e^. Natives & y^e^. Natives with them y^e^. charge of such removes is excessive & the frequent doing thereof makes any people appeare vain & inconsiderate in their first attempts. You tell us now people are willing to go to Bencoolen & they have more health then formerly: if so why should we remove them if you intend not to remove that Fort who have you to trust in y^e^. Govern-

[. . .] more [. . .] healthy yn. formerly and people willing to goe there.

ment of it in Mr. Bloomes absence: Mr. Knipe is uncapab[le] wanting parts & naturally slothfull & if you send a stranger he may prove a fool a knave or a mad man as Du Jardin was & some others you have left at Indrapoora, whether Jeanpatwan be ye. true Monocobbo or not is a great doubt, whatever he be his Interest is not always ours, he would be going about the Country with his five or six hundred hangers on which he calls his Captains & Souldiers to force the petty Rajas everywhere to pay him tribute, besides your own Interest is some times destructive of ours & the publick Interest of the Nation: Wee know it is the hope of Gold tempts Mr. Bloome & we have a just fear That [it] has tempted you to a complyance with his Motion. It is not Gold, or Diamonds, or Rubies that will pay the Company for a fortyfied settlement, nothing that a man can carry in his pocket will answer such a charge to us what ever it may do to you, we must fortify where we can load our great ships & are to have a speciall regard to that Commodity of Pepper, which if the Dutch once get from this Kingdom they get all & we must truckle to them in all parts of the World as well as in India. It is that Commodity that we have yet secured to this Kingdom at our immense charge & what place is there in ye. World affords more of that Commodity then Bencoolen, but you will say you designe not to leave that place, we say you inervate it expose & hazard it by removing Mr. Bloome you divide our force & put us to a Double charge, had you setled first at Priaman & all our charge that hath been since spent had been laid out there that place might have been by this time a fair City strong & rendering ye. Compa. a good revenue but shuffling from place to place ruines all & we do absolutely forbid it for ye. future without our own express order or Sr. John Child's as aforesaid & in ye. mean time we desire you to support & strengthen Bencoolen all that possibly you can.

Wee have never had any comfortable account from Indrapoora & therefore are not so much offended with your purpose of withdrawing from that place, but we like not well your doing it without our order for althô we wish it had never been settled as you did it without our order, yet we have a generall aversation to the removeing from any place where we have fortifyed it if it can be preserved without loss because such receedings in Pepper Countries especially are matters of joy and triumph to our Emulators ye. Dutch & peradventure if honest Mr. Unkettle be alive & comes to be Chief it may prove to be a place of more advantage than wee have found it hitherto by meanes of the ill instruments that were trusted in chief command there. Take it for a certain rule that time only makes any place beneficiall, all are & were discouraging at the first settlement.

2dly. That one place well fortyfied & secured on any coast is better Than three meanly guarded & defended according to that excellent adage *Vis unita fortior*,

What you have done in the aforegoing affairs we know not but wee conclude the less ye. better & if you have removed to Mangoose or Priaman stick there remove no more & above all support Bencoolen if it be possible.

No person capable of Mr. Bloomes station.

[. . . .] Kempe &ca. yr. characters.

[. . . .] patwan Slighted by ye.

[. . . .]

[. . . .] vate persons interest

[. . . .] [to Compa.]

Reflections upon Mr. Bloome's removall and motives why Compas. interest to bee preferr'd before private.

Pepper trade of great consequence and ought to bee preserv'd.

Compas. great charge to keep itt.

Removalls dangerouse and expensive.

Thoughts as to Priaman.

Removalls wth. out Co or Genlls. order forbidden.

Bencoolen to bee encouraged.

No encouragmt from Indrapora, liberty to wth. draw thence.

Removalls encouragemt. to ye. Dutch.

Mr. Unkettles character.

Mismanagmt. of cheifes ye. cause of Compas. misfortunes

Bencoolen ₱ticularly to bee encouraged

Phalkons death att Siam.

From Siam wee have the news of Phalkons death which happened not unforeseen to some that observed his wicked wit & want of honest wisdome & now that y^e^. fugitive English & ffrench are banished thence there will be no Nation to cover their shipping & effects as y^e^. French did. We hope they will soon be compelled to make peace with our Generall upon honorable termes & if they will give us the Port & Customes of Mergeu for ever in satisfaction of all demands wee shall be therewith contented & condition with them never to take above five ℔ Cent Custom for the goods of all places going up that River into y^e^. King of Siams Country.

Hopes of an Accomodation wth. Siam & upon wt. termes.

Insureance upon y^e^. Bengall not regarded & why.

Wee are not sorry that few or none did insure upon the termes we proposed by M^r^. Thomas Gray sixteen & twenty ℔ c^t^. was given upon the Bengall after wee had news of her arrivall at S^t^. Hellena. Its now a time of war & we order you to asure no persons up[on] our best & freshest ships under twenty ℔ ct. nor upon those that have been long abroad under 25 ℔ c^t^.

Condicons of Insureance [. . .]

Mr. Cheney to bee reinstated in Councell.

If you have restored M^r^. Cheney to his station in Councill we shall not be against it, but since he is gone to China which is a business any one may do without y^e^. Malay Language & is like to make a profitable voyage for himselfe we will allow him no salary or other benefit at our charge during his absence nor to any other persons that go upon private voyages.

[. . .] not allowed to Compas. wn. absent upon private [. . .] iry of y^e^. owne.

[Pun]ishmt. of Pirates commenced.

You have done very well in ordering the condemnation & execution of some English at all places, where they shall be convicted of Piracy in example to others & to satisfy those Nations of our Justice & detestation of such robberies.

Betelles sent contrary to ordr. damage to ye. Com^a^.

You sending us so many Bettelles &c^a^. after we forbid them is to the Comp^as^. damage above ten thousand Pounds sterling & tho' we [are] indeed willing to take every thing you say in the best & most favorable sense, yet we must confesse we cannot understand there is any vertue in that excuse wherein you say these sent [us] by the Bengall were remains of contracts made to the Southward in President Gyffords time you will not wee suppose say but your Contracts did limit time of delivery as well as quantity and quality of goods & it seems absurd to conceive we should be obleidged to receive any goods (especialy such as we have no want of) two years after the time of delivery expired, for we have forbid Betelles above the time of two years. And for the fig Indico since you received it before you had our order against it you had better have sent it for that time; rather than sent home the Bengall with so much dead Freight, but it may be that you found it would sell as dear as it cost & was worth as much, but we have too much cause to fear these paultry Betellees you sent, which we believe were received from your black Merchants in payment for some effects of your own, were not worth the prices they are invoiced at to be paid for with ready money by thirty ℔ cent: besides which they are like to lye four or five years upon our hands before we shall see a peny for them.

[. . .] sending ym.

Contracts ought to bee [strictly] performed.

Goods out of time not to [be] receᵈ.

Betelles how long forbidden.

Indigoe ought to have been sent ℔ ye. Bengall.

Reflections abt. Betellees. how extravagantly Invoic'd.

Want of Calliatore wood neglect.

The want of Calliatore Wood to load upon this shipwas a neglect for want of looking out for it in time otherwise you might as well have had it before as after the ships dispatch.

Permissive trade equall to all persons wt. ever.

You are under a great mistake & we admire so many of you should be guilty of it or set your hands to it in saying you pay eight or ten ℔ cent: more then the

free ships for our permission: you know our principall is that all persons & all Nations should pay alike & to have but one standard for all Duties the same by our Governour & Deputy Governour & Committees as is paid by [a] Jentue or an Armenian But this matter of the free ships is yet [an] unsettled thing & having a necessity of sending out such ships to carry out stores & souldiers in the time of War we were forced [to] agree with them as well as we could some on one condition and [some] on another there being scarce two of the Charterpartyes alike [to] all covenants But hereafter we intend to reduce all that wee [shall] allow unto one generall rule which is most like to be that of the Armenians Contract but we can not presently settle that rule [until] we understand better how our affairs are in Bengall, at the present We know but of two ℔ cent: you pay more than the free ships besides the accommodations we had outward upon those ships which was not in considerable at that time.

Mistake in saying Co: reced 8: or 10: ℔ct: more yn. of free shipps.

Free shipps not setled, and necessity for sending them out and why how free shipps &ca. are to bee regulated for ye. future.

2 ℔ct only pd. more yn. free shipps.

Medicines we shall send you accordingly as desired. Liquors you may furnish yourselves cheaper with there than we can [send] them from hence since we do now sometimes allow ships to stop [at] Madera & Canaries.

Medicens to be sent, not liquors and why.

[. . .]

Wee are not satisfyed with ye. reasons you give us for tasheriffing the Pegu Merchants nor repent of our order for confineing you to seaventeen Pagodos ℔ Candy for Pepper. We tell you our mind freely and truely as we read the paragraphs of your Letter and must do so in faithfullness to our trust & when we come to other paragraphs wherein you have done well we shall as justly give you your due commendations.

Tasheriffing Pegu Merchts. censured

Ordr. for settling Pepper price.

Particularly for your putting our order in due execution about passengers & for putting your Corporation in so good posture & encouraging that foundation which we hope in time may prove a venerable society for the honour of this kingdom & the good government of that City.

Execucon of Passengrs. ordr. and encouraging ye. Corporacon applauded.

Wee are very sorry Mr. Higginson should meet with any discouragement he having so much business upon him & we do hereby give him leave to choose any two or three writers or factors which himselfe shall make choice of to be his assistants & to do no other worke but to be alwayes at his disposall & if any such so elected by him do refuse or neglect to do what he shall appoint them in due time and manner we require you to turn such refractory persons out of our service.

Mr. Higginson allowed 2: or 3 Writers or ffactors as his assistants and why.

Upon the dissolution of the French interest in India we hope you may pick up some of their scattered people that may do good service for seamen or souldiers.

French to bee enterteyned as sailors or souldiers.

Wee must applaud & commend our Presidents generous attempts for a Trade at Mindanao, free ships & private persons are always best to make the beginnings & lay the first foundations of trade in any new place their attempts are begun & managed with less charge & more frugality than its possible the Compss. should be and we hope he and his friends interested with him will be great gainers by their undertaking now or hereafter.

[. . .] attempt of a trade at Mindanao applauded. Reasons why. Compas: thoughts thereon

Since now we have so strict an amity with ye. Dutch & that our King is their Statholder we think it may not be so convenient for you in your Country ships to make any attempts upon the Spice Islands but wee cannot see any reason why you may not, now that our Queen as well as our King are both Protestants, make some triall for a Trade at Jappan since if you are disappointed there which is the worst can happen you may notwithstanding make a China Voyage in your return from thence. This we only recommend to you[r] consideration in regard that ye. only reason ye Jappaners gave for their disappointing our last attempts from hence was that our Queen then was a Papist & a Portuguez.

Attempts upon ye. spice Islands forbidden. Trade to Jappan directed. Jappanners reasons for prohibiting Co: to Trade.

* From Ar. *tashrif*, 'honouring'. It applies also to complimentary presents in Southern India. *Hobson-Jobson*, p. 902.

[. . .] of ye. Mint [. . .]

Wee shall consider of the complaint you make of the eagerness of the Gold and write you more thereof by our first direct ship, & shall then send you another Mint Master & an Essay Master if we can meet with one to our minds.

[. . .] directed [. . .] coast and wt. not [. . .]

Wee would have you send no ships to the West Coast to fill up with Pepper that have any considerable quantity of Peice goods on board them for Europe, rather send ships onely ballasted with Petre thither to fill up or such ships as are to return back with their Pepper to the Fort.

We omit in this inlarging upon any particular in our general Letter to Bombay & forbear mentioning some things which you will observe in the Copy of that.

Settlemt. not [Engaged] by ye. Compa. [. . .] except neare ye. south seas reasons why.

Wee have no kind of thoughts of spending any part of the Compas. stock in any new Fort or Factory at present, except upon the Generalls arrivall he & you should resolve to settle some place in or near the South Seas where ye. Chinesees might resort to & cohabit with us without passing by Mallacca or Batavia under the protection of our Fortification & plant sugars & Betlenut keep shopps & do all other buisness as they do under the Dutch at Batavia, for which we would be content to allow them our encouragment & protection paying us one fourth part in all respects of what they pay the Dutch, & we would order all our China ships to [stop there going & returning for encouragement of the place, but if ever you go about] such a work it must be done with great secrecy & at once without hesitation least you be prevented [as] you were at Priaman & for that purpose of secrecy we do in [such] case appoint our Generall Sr. John Child our President Mr. Elih[u] Yale & our second Mr. Higginson to be a Committee of Secrecy to contrive manage & direct any new settlement for the purpose aforesaid & we forbid as aforesaid ye. erecting [or] establishing any other new Fort or Factory on your side of India beyond Zeiloon without our concurrence first obtained.

Secrecy absolutely necessary for such settlemt.

[Committee] appointed.

Revenues of Madrasse considered and yr: increase recommended.

Althô we have told you before what improvement we think Madrass is capable of in time if it were under Dutch management, yet we are not for raising Duties in any time to their unreasonable excess nor unsensible of your good service in the gentle easie progress you have made therein allready, which we do very well approve of desireing your perseverance progress & groweth therein to a greater maturity as time & opportunity gives you leave.

Leave granted to ye. Dorothy to retorne directly from China &ca:

Reasons why:

[. . .] all Goods to be Consigned to ye: Ca:

The Owners of the Dorothy having applyed to us for [leave] that their ship if she should be in India when this [letter] arrives might have ye. liberty to return from thence directly from China for this place or from Bengall. Wee have condesce[nded] thereunto upon the terms of our generall permission [for] China & Bengall goods & upon this express condition [that] all the goods which shall be loaden on board her at any [place for] whose accompts soever they may be, be consigned by [Bills of] loading to the Compa. to pay Freight & permission as [the Company] shall order & direct which will not be more than ye. [present] establisht rates of permission for the goods of those Countries.

Proprietors of permissive trade ꝑ ye. Bengall damnified & why:

The proprietors in the permissive goods that came [home] by the Bengall did suffer some delay in ye. clearing [of their] effects out of ye. Custom house & a little loss & our Off[icers] some inconveniency because you did not send us [true] copies of the Invoices of every particular permitted Adventurers goods which if you had done we could [have] entered them at the Customhouse joyntly at once with [our] own. For the future demand from ye. proprietors and send us such true copies of ye. respective Invoices & one of ye. [Bills of] loading in our own pacquets & give order that the like [be] constantly done in all places subordinate to you.

Taking Pullicherry directed if [N]ation all & for wt. reason.

If Pollicherry where ye. French are settled be worth our having you may now easily take it during our present war with France It being a declared war by Land & [sea] and the French having allready taken Mount Serrett an English Island in the West Indies & Stwabia a Dutch Island the[re], but this we leave to

our Generalls & our secret Council [hereby] appointed to do therein as they shall see cause but we would never have them engage us in any expence where the appearance of advantage does not manifestly overpo[ize] the charge & hazard. Wee send you copies of the Declaration of War herewith of which we would have you make pub[licke] Proclamation but at the same time privately Court [as] many of the French Seamen & souldiers into our serv^ice^. as you can & use them kindly.

Generall &ca: power in ye. affaire. Declaration of Warr sent and its publication directed. French men to bee enterteyn'd and ye Stations.

Wee know not well what a kind of Fort that is at Ballasore taken by Captain Heath which the Moors built upon or near the place where our Banksall was formerly as we suppose & if you are in possession of it when this arrives you must consider of what use it may be to us & whether it be worth y^e^ charge of keeping or not, we conceive it may command all ships & boats going into the River of Ballasore but they are small & few. It cannot be any succour to our great ships rideing in Ballasore Roade because the shoal water will hinder them from comeing nearer that Fort than within five or six Leagues & our ships in Ballasore Road do generally ride in a hard & dangerous Roadstead & many of our men come to sickness & death by their constant labour of rowing so far in such a rough sea, which we would willingly prevent all that in [us] lyes, & therefore if the Moors will allow us to fortyfie ourselves at Chuttanuttee where our ships may go up and ride within y^e^: command of our Guns it would be so much better for us though it should cost us a bribe of thirty or forty thousand Rupees to y^e^. greate men to be paid when we are possest of y^e^: Mogulls Phirmaund for that & for the confirmation of y^e^. twelve Articles made with M^r^. Charnock, but the confirmation of those Articles we insist upon in right & will not purchase them.

Fort att Ballasore taken Cap^a^ Heath considred. wt: benefitt. [. . . .] Scituation very inconvenient and why. Compas: inclination to [settle] att Chuttanuttee. Rups. 40000 order'd to be given [. . . .] Phirmaund. [. . . .] articles insisted upon [by] y^e^. Ca:

If you resettle in Bengall you must order our Pilots and govern yourselves in y^e^: settlement & collection of our Revenue after the same manner as y^e^. Dutch do in those townes which they possess in that Countrey. So commending you & our affaires to the guidance and protection of the Allmighty we remain.

Dutch method to be observd: upon a resettlem^t^: Bengall.

M^r^. George Cooke to be 4^th^. of Council & Mr. Pilkington last.

Your very loving Friends,

THOMAS FREDERICK.
JOHN GOODERE.
JOSEPH HERNE.
WILLIAM LANGHORN.
NATH: MOUNTENEY.
RICHARD STERNE.
WILLIAM SEDGWICK.

BENJAMIN BATHURST Gov^r^.
JOSIA CHILD Deputy.
JOSIA CHILD Jun^r^.
THOMAS COOKE.
JOHN COOKE of AUSTIN FRIERS.
JAMES EDWARDS.
BERKELEY.

Wee have been so exceedingly obliged to [the Rela]cõns of M^r^. George Cooke formerly of Persia, y^t^. notw^th^. standing his former too [intimate] correspondence with ffalcons [creatures of] Syam, we would have you [now] make him 4^th^. of o^r^. Council at ffort [St. George], except o^r^. Gen^ll^. have before this comes to yo^r^. hands placed him in [some]

other staco̅n w^ch^. he likes better. Wee would have you likewise make Mr. Rich^d^. Pilkinton who formerly was at Syam, youngest of our Councill at y^e^ ffort as soon as he shall come thither unto which place his ffather our present Lord Mayor of London, Sir Tho: Pilkinton hath ordered him to repair as soon as he can.

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT ST. GEORGE, DATED MAY 9, 1690. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 10, *pp.* 15, 16.]

OUR GENERALL PRESIDENT & [COUNCILL] OF FORT S^T^. GEORGE.

LONDON THE 9^th^ MAY 1690.

[. . .] by ye. orrange.

1. Though we hope this ship the Orange will never have occasion to come to the Fort, but will find her full Loading of Pepper at Bencoolen & return to us in a short time, yet upon a supposition that she may there meet with a conveyance for this letter to you, we think fit by her to give you some brief account of affairs here.

[difficulty] in sending [Ships] to India.

2. By the inclosed, which we send open to you that you may peruse it before you seal and send it forward for Tonqueen, you will observe something of the present difficulty we have to get out any one ship for India by reason of the Generall Imbargo and the press for seamen. It was a very great while after this ship was fitted to our excessive charge in her lyeing in the River before we could prevail for a Protection and Pass for this ship notwithstanding that important argument we urged of the great consequence to this Nation in generall of that Fort of Bencoolen, & the want there was of stores and provisions to preserve it and the irrecoverableness of it, if it were once lost to our Emulators in Trade, as has been found by too wofull experience in the case of the Spice Islands, Macassar, Bantam &c^a^.

[. . .] dena for Batavia [. . .] fetch ye. James peper [. . . smart] for Maddras [. . .] for Bombay [. . .] for [. . .]uolen.

3. Tho we do continue our solicitations at the Council Table and the Admiralty, we have little hopes of getting out the Modena before their Majesties Fleets come in, which will be about September or October next. Her we intend for Batavia to bring home the Royall James's Pepper, and a great new ship of 60 Guns whereof Captain Smart is to be Commander we design for your place, & the Beaufort for Bombay. Captain Knox in the Tonqueen we design for Bencoolen with Madagascar slaves where they are of absolute necessity to work upon our Fortifications, etc. what more ships we may send you we cannot advise untill we receive our letters by our summer ships But as the World goes we shall think ourselves happy if we can obtain Protections and Passes for those we have already told you of.

[. . . .] Parlim^t^. for [. . .]

4. The Act of Parliament for confirming the Comp^as^. Charters you will have copy of here enclosed, it hath been twice read in the House of Commons and is committed, but of course there will be so much time spent in the Committee that we conclude neither Ours nor the Act for confirming the African Comp^a^. can pass this [session] which we think will not hold above 3 or 4 days longer, the Act for confirm[ing the Hudsons] Bay Comp^a^. hath past the house of Commons, and we hope may pass the Lor[ds this Sessions,] which will be a good leading Card, But their whole stock being but of the value of £ 10,000: subscribed by all the Adventurers It needed not so much deliberation [as the other] Comp^as^. which are of much greater consequence.

India goods in great esteem. China goods in little.

5. All East India goods in generall are in very great request except [the old Druggs,] Bettellees, (of which we have enough here for 5 years) Cuttanees, Mallabar Cass[ia Lignum] and Turmerick, China goods likewise are in very mean esteem as you will [observe in] our inclosed letters to Tonqueen But above all Bengall goods are most in [request]

6. We have advice of the Arrivall of Charles the Second and London at [Barbadoes] & the Commanders or Passengers give out there that they expected six more [ships] from India to follow them, which gives us hopes that our Generall hath made [a peace] at Bombay, But we have no letters from our Commanders, this news comeing [by] letters from Barbadoes writ by private Merchants to their Friends at [Mevis] from thence by a ship that adventured alone to Bristoll. Shipps Charles ye. 2d. [ye.] London at Barbadoes.

7. Send us all the Effects you can possibly procure while the Markets are [so good] in Europe. Send all effects procurable.

8. Herewith we send you the Petition of Thomasine Watson on behalf of her[brother] James Watson, late Factor at Cassimbuzar and Keeper of the Generall Charges of that Factory, alledging that when he entered upon that imployment what his Predecessor [stood] chargeable withall was placed to the said Watsons Account, by reason whereof and other undue means the said Watson is made considerably in our Debt, tho' [as he says] no way contracted by himself And we being willing that right should be done [to all] men, would have you cause the matter of Fact to be examined and to do therein for the said Watsons relief as shall be found agreeable to equity and good conscience. Thomas Watsons Petition.

9. The Bill for confirming the Hudsons Bay is since past. So commending our Affairs to the Protection of the Allmighty Wee remain. Hudsons Bay

Your very loving Friends

Robert Marshall.	John Cooke.	Joseph Herne Governour.
Thomas Rawlinson.	Josia Child.	Thomas Cooke Deputy.
William Turner.	Francis Gosfright.	Berkeley.
	Henry Johnson.	Edw^{p}. D. Bouverie.
	William Johnson.	Benjamin Bathurst.
	William Langhorne.	George Boune.
	Nathaniel Mountenay.	Josia Child Senior.

General letter to Tonqueen, dated May 24, 1690. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 10, *pp. 17–18.*]

London the 24th May [1690.]

Our Chief & Councill
at Tonqueen.

Wee received your generall and particular Letters by the ship Rain[bow] whereof Captain Poole is Commander, and all the goods you sent by her according to The Invoice which proved very mean and slight goods, the ship happily arrived in the winter in a very dangerous time, not onely with respect to the violent storms we had upon this Coa[st] last Winter; but also of a fierce war this Kingdom was & yet is engaged in against France [and] very many French Privateers of good force constantly in the Channell & in the offi[ng in] the Track of ships comeing in, notwithstanding which hazards Tonqueen & China [goods] continue at as mean or meaner rates than they were sold for before this present [warr] whereas all other goods of India are risen greatly in price. [. . . .] p Rainbow. [. . . .] sent very indifferent. [Arr]ivall of shipps difficult. [Ton]-queene and China goods [. . . .] value.

So many men are employed, & prest into the War at present, & all materialls [for shipping] so exceeding dear by reason of the War, that we are forced to give now to our own shipping Freight & half Freight, and the like advance in Demorage, & notwithstanding that [cannot] get licence from the Imbargo, & Protection of our seamen from the Press, for one [ship of] two that we have occasion to send for India, notwithstanding our daily application [to] the Councill. [Se]nding out of shipps, difficult [and] very chargeable.

Modena delayed and why.

The Modena, though she be all fitted, her flesh killed & all other provis-[ions] lying still in this River, though we have petitioned for her Dispatches any time this [three months] past, but she being a great ship that will carry about 180 seamen, some Members [of His] Majesties most hon[ble]. Privy Councill have told us the publick affairs of the Nati[on cannot] yet admit of parting with so many seamen, but we shall still continue our [sollicitation] as we shall likewise for another ship to send to your parts, but we do dispair of [obtaining] that while the [heat]of the present war continues, you must therefore in this interval [make it] your business effectually to dispose of all our goods, which you have now lyeing [by you,] and to convert them into better Pelongs than you sent us last, & other accustomary measured goods of that place, for your lacquered Ware its so slight & naught & of such low [Esteem] here, that it will not defray the charges of the Freight.

[. . .] to be disposed and [. . .] Pelongs &ca.

[. . . qured] goods not esteeme.

[. . .] procurable to bee sent [to Fort] St. Geo.

What goods you can provide out of the Effects you have remaining [of ours which] are very considerable, during this failure of ships comeing out, wee [would have you] by all conveyances that present unto our President & Councill at Fort St. George who will send them to us by our returning Europe ships, & now you have time enough [see that the] goods you provide be very good in their kinds, for if we should never have better from thence, than those you sent us p Captain Poole, that Trade will not be worth the following.

[Fruga]llity advised.

Be very frugall in your Expences especially during this Intervall [of Trade] your own reason may tell you that a small Trade cannot bear a great charge which [we] hope you will consider.

[. . .] Coles effects to be sent.

The Relict of Captain John Cole late Commander of the Sminaotte acquainting [us of] the very small returns she has received of all her late husbands concernes, & that notwith[standing] she long since empowered our Chief M[r]. Keeling by a Letter of Attorney to receive [what] debts he knew standing out of her husbands, & to send home or else dispose of all [such] Effects as were in his M[r]. Blackmores or any other hands, & pay the Proceed into our [cash,] drawing Bills upon us for the same, yet she has not received one Line from him in [answer] to what she then wrote, nor any accompt of the money goods & Effects he hath of hers [nor] of the disposall of the ship Guns Cordage & other stores, which its said he sold to so [very] consi-derable an amount, we therefore require you that by the very next opportunity [you] have of writing to us there be sent us a full and particular accompt as well of the [disposall] of the said ship & all stores thereunto belonging as of all her Effects that so right may [be] done her.

[. . .] Coles effects to bee sent home.

[. . .] Bunkards effects [. . .] sent home.

The Widow of M[r]. James Bunkard who was Master of the ship Sminaotte at the time she was cast away off your Bar at Tonqueen hath also represented unto us, that ten Cattees[1] of Musk belonging to her late Husband came to the hands of our Chief, and that there was Credit given him for the same in your accompt as has been affirmed to us by M[r]. Hustler, we expect therefore by the next, that you send home the said [Musk] consigning the same unto us for the Widowes use.

[. . .] to bee sent a Drug. [. . .] low price.

Send us home onely what Musk you have bought for our accompt, & are obliged to take [of] the Merchants, because it is a great Drug at present, so would have you buy no more till further order, Raw silk [also] is very low [here]. Wee are

Your very loving Friend
[*No signature**]

[1] This is a Malayo-Javanese word. It is equal to 1⅓ lb. *Hobson-Jobson*, *p.* 175.

* In the T.O. copy the signatures are the same as inthe preceding letter to Fort St. George, except that Henry Johnson does not sign and Nath: Tench does.

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT ST. GEORGE, DATED MAY 30, 1690. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 10, *pp. 19, 20*].

LONDON 30TH. MAY 1690.

OUR PRESIDENT AT FORT ST.
GEORGE ELIHU YALE ESQR.

Wee have in our generall Letter by this ship given you our thanks for your prudent management of our concernes & intend in our next to give you a further testimony of our gratitude, and altho' we think it is improper as well as beneath the honour of the Compa. to send creeping to Bengall to make a separate Peace with the new Nabob of Dacca upon his Perwanna or Letter of Invitation, since the war is now a generall or Nationall war between the English & Moores, untill an universall Peace be made by the Representative of our Nation our Generall & Councill of India residing at Bombay as you will observe by our generall Letter accompanying this, Yet in regard all sorts of Bengall goods are now exorbitantly dear in Europe, and that wee would not willingly hold a Candle, wee may say a Torch to the Dutch to make a harvest in Trade of our totall neglect of those Bengall Commedities We have therefore thought fit to impower you singly, and with secrecy to employ such persons, as you shall think most faithfull & able in your own name or otherwise to invest the value of twenty or five & twenty thousand Pounds sterling in Bengall goods, which you may send down at once or at twice

Mr. Yale proceedings [ap] plauded.
[. . .] for procuring peace
[. . . M] oores blamed.
[re]asons why.
[Be]ngall goods very deare.
[. . .]- hod for procuring ym.
[. . .]- rected.
[. . .] not to exceed: £ 25,000.
[. . .] to bee sent and why.
[. . .] coynes.
[. . .] by favour to bee pre-
[. . .]- [cessation] of armes offered upon ye. [Coast] & Bay.

rather (for wee would not venture too much of our stock at one time on a hazardous enterprise) & it is our desire, that the stock you send down for the Compas. accompt, should be one half in Rupees coined at the Fort, & the other in Dollars to be sold, but not to stay the coining of them in the Bay, & in the mean time wee think you may do well to hold a respectfull correspondence with the new Nabob at Dacca, who hath begun it first with you, in which you may assure him, that tho' you cannot make a finall Peace of all differences, because that must be done by the Generall & Councill aforesaid, you will notwithstanding presume, & take upon you to enjoyn on that Coast a Cessation of all hostility while your small trade in the Bay continues, and untill a perfect Peace be made by our Generall and Councill aforesaid, for and on behalf of the whole English Nation.

Whom you should intrust in this affair of our Bengall servants that you have with you wee will not determine, but leave to your choice to imploy such onely [as] you have alwaies found faithfull; and not to let the persons themselves know [that they] are employed for the Compas. accompt, but to carry the matter so secret, at [least for some] time, as if they were employed onely for the accompt of yourself and friends [and so let] them go as private Merchants without the Pomp, state, & charge that [would be requisite] if they were known to be employed for the Company. Let those that goe on this errand be bound

Persons to bee intrusted to make ye. Investmt. att Mr. Yales election.
Affaire to bee transacted in private names and why.

to return to you by the same ship or sloop that carryes [them] thither & when you have, nor untill you have the returnes of the first sum̃ you send [thither] send not a second, & when you have the returnes of the first and second, which [we] presume may amount to the value of £ 25,000: aforesaid, you may in like manner ad[ven]ture upon a third and fourth Investment of the like £ 25,000. But

Persons sent to retorne wth. ye. same shipp.
2d. Sāme not to bee sent, before receipt of ye. 1st.
3: or 4: consigmt. directed if to purpose.

observe that [ye] goods most in request are the finest Muslins & Callicoes of all sorts vizt. [Doreas], Humhums, Mullmulls, Tanjeebs, fine Cossaes, Ginghams white, & coloured, & Nil[laes] and Taffaties: But Raw Silk of Bengall is pulled down in price extreamly by the great quantities of China silk, but that

wt. sort of goods in request.

wt. goods out of request and why.

will however turn to a tollerable accompt, for what you cannot invest in the other goods aforesaid, and so will the clear shellack [of] Cassimbuzar.

No Europe goods to bee sent untill desired. Coast goods in request (except Betellees).

Now is your time to dispose of all our Europe remains, for wee will [send] you no more untill you write for them; and now is your time to send us all the [coast] Callicoes you can (except Bettelees) which will come to an extraordinary Market.

Fort Rups. to bee sent to Bengal: [Suratt] and why.

Wee advise the sending of Rupees, especially coined at the Fort at this time, because now the people are hungry for Trade, and commenced a new friendship [with] us, It is fit wee should begin upon termes that may be of much future advanta[ge to y^e.] Comp^a. & wee have no reason to doubt, but if they will allow you Trade, they will [admit] of any such easie condition comeing with it, they having pincht so long for want of [our trade] more to the dammage of their Merchants in one respect than of us, because dureing [the] abatement of Trade the price of our goods here hath advanced, as theirs hath fallen in India, of which wee doubt not thrô your fidelity, & of those you will choose [to] employ in this matter, wee shall find the good effects. Wee have found the Moo[res] Governours so perfidious in all their Treaties hitherto that you must be very cautious how you trust them upon any Oaths or promises, notwithstanding any plausible Character they pass under.

Moores not to bee trusted.

Europe goods to bee sent to Bengall from ye. Fort.

Some few of our Europe goods likewise (such as you know will, sell well) you [may] if you think fit send to Bengall on this occasion. So wee commend you to God and rest.

Your very loving Friends

Francis Gosfright.	George Boune.	Joseph Herne Govern^r.
John Goodere.	Josia Child Senior.	Thomas Cooke, Deputy
John Moore.	Josia Child.	Berkeley.
Nath Mounteney.	James Edwards.	Edward des Bouverie.
Thomas Rawlinson.		

General Letter to Fort St. George, dated January 22, 1692. Per Samuel.
[*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 10, *pp. 21–38* (*India Office transcript*).]

London the 22th January 1691–92.

Our President Nathaniell Higginson Esq^r.
& the rest of our Councill at Fort St. George,

Herewith comes Copy of ours by the Dorothy & what since wrote you, with a Commission vacating President Yale's Authority & establishing Mr. Higginson President.

1. With this we send you copy of our Generall Letter by the Dorothy, and what else we have wrote you since the Dorothys departure, as also our Commission vacating Elihu Yale Esquire his authority and establishing you Mr. Nathaniell Higginson in his place & stead which Commission you are to cause to be published with the usuall sollemnity to the intent that all the Companyes Servants, and all the Natives under the Companies subjection may take notice thereof and know unto whom they must yield obedience.

Have recd. the Presidents Letter of 20th Septr. & 3d. Novr. refused to be signed by the Council which is designed for excusing the non investing our Stock &c^a. to the Companys great Losse.

2. Now we are to acknowledge the receipt of a generall letter dated at the beginning the twentieth September and at the Conclusion the third of November 1690 signed only by our late President Mr. Yale but refused to be subscribed by the rest of the Councill, on which we shall make such reflections as are necessary, which will be very few, most part of the said letter being meerly historicall and contrived and calculated with excuses for keeping our great Stock there soe long dead upon our hands to our infinite losse at a time when we might have gained more here by one ships loading of Coast Cloth than by six ships loadings in time of Peace.

3. The improvements of the Companies Revenue at Madrasse boasted of are soe farr from satisfying us, that we know they are not one-fifth part of what they might be without oppression of our black subjects if there were no more extorted from them then the Companies just dues and those were faithfully and equally collected from all persons indifferently which is our constant and positive order, and is a matter of that Consequence to the Interest of England and posterity as well as to the present Company as that it ought to be one of your principall cares as it is of the Dutch who if they had Madrasse and their Constitution would permitt them to give the same liberty and indulgence for generall Commerce in India as we doe would soone bring up the Revenue of that place to be greater annually than that of Batavia which some of us doe remember to have been under ninety Thousand pounds Sterling per annum and now we hear and believe it is advanced to above two hundred and Thirty Thousand pounds per annum which enables them to secure by great expences and Forts their soveraigne state in India, Enlarge their Dominion as well as their Trade, and to bee alwaies in a Condition to revenge any affronts that are offered them, and this is a matter that should lye near to every honest Englishman's heart that loves or desires the honour and publick welfare of his owne Countrey. A visible Instance you have before you at this present in the purchase of Tegnapatam which hath already cost the Company a vast summe of money in the purchase and constant charges accrewing there. But that place lying so near Madrasse if you purchased it barely for the proffitt which will arise by the trade of that place you had done us a greater kindness if you had throwne soe much of our treasure into the Sea. It's nothing but Revenue can maintain great and chargeable fortifications and Garrissons or secure them when we have them.

The improvement of the Revenue not one-fifth [⅕] what might be & without oppression & a faithfull collection made from all indifferently which Wee positively order to be for the future.

The Dutch would make 230,000 per annum of Madrass revenue if they had it. It is a revenue that enables the Dutch to enlarge & strengthen their trade & Dominions &ca. Tegnapatam hath prov'd chargeable to the Company already which nothing but revenue can maintain.

4. The want of this politicall science in the old Company lost in the former Age above the best halfe of the Trade of India and peradventure it will never be in the power of this Kingdome to recover any considerable part of it againe. It being now in the hands of wise men that know how to hold what they gett by the true Rules of Policy which we have often recommended to you, But have been basely obstructed by the selfish narrow designes of our owne Servants.

Want of this politicall science in the old Company lost them most of the trade of India which is not easily recoverable. This has been often recommended but obstructed by you.

5. The next letter before us to answer is our late Presidents of the fifteenth of September 1690 by the Danish Conveyance In which we observe to our great dissatisfaction the sale of our white Cloth in the buying of which we make noe doubt but we were cheated of the six Thousand Pagodas which the Councill valued them at worse than they were Invoiced at which we require you to recover from Mr. Nicks and others that were concerned in that Cheat. But the greatest losse of all to the Company was in the private sale of them againe at six Thousand Pagodas pretended proffit when all goods were growne soe scarce by the Famine and other Causes which you have soe often inculcated to us as insuperable reasons for the keeping our Stock soe long dead by you.

We come to answer our President's letter of the 15th Septr. Are sorry our white Cloth is sold to our loss. Recover from Mr. Nicks the 6,000 pags. that Cloth was valued at worse than invoiced President Yale blamed for building turf Bulwarks &c^{a}. at the Compas. Charge let him collect the charge of the Inhabitants or pay it himselfe.

6. Wee are less satisfied with our Presidents building Turfe Bulwarkes and making Trenches round the Black Towne at our charge which we did never order to be done but at the charge of the Inhabitants, and the President did often promise it should be so and we hope he will be so just as to doe the Company right in this matter or pay the charge himself, It being a thing done without our

Flag those Banks & Bulwarks with Stone or Brick at the Inhabitants charge.

consent as to the manner and as wee aprehend without the consent of our Councill; and now we doe expressly determine and order that all those Banks and Bulwarks be by degrees soundly flaged with stone or Bricks and Chinam at the charge of the Inhabitants for whose defence they are made onely, our Christian Towne being really stronger in case of a formall seige without those out workes than with them: Besides we very well know that except that Trench or Graft and the Breast worke raised against it and all the sides of your Bulwarkes be strongly flag'd with Stone or Brick and Chinam your Trench will become in a short time a dirty ditch choked with sand and your Bulwarkes soe many rude heaps of Rubbish. Wee doe not now prescribe the manner how the money shall be raised for performing this noble worke, That must be done by consultation with the Heads or Chiefs of the severall Casts when our Comissary Generall hereafter mentioned shall arrive with you, In the mean time you may be thinking of the fittest meanes.

Advising with the Chief of them how to raise the money when Sir John G. arrives.

We have had it suggested to us that if any revenues were raised on the Inhabitants they would leave the place but having found it false let none dare to tell us we mistake herein.

7. Wee have been unworthily and falsely amused with untrue suggestions for private ends That if we raised any small Revenues upon the Inhabitants for publick Nationall and honourable Ends, The Inhabitants would be soe discouraged that they would leave the Place which as we never believed being assertions against Common sence and reason soe the falsity of those assertions are now manifest to every mans view there and To our experience here, your Inhabitants being encreased since we first establisht those minute inconsiderable ground Rents above two Hundred Thousand souls and are now in the whole above Four Hundred Thousand souls and let noe man hereafter be soe impudent to tell us we are mistaken: Wee have tryed this truth not onely by the examination of Captain Heath and many other English but alsoe by some Serangoes and Lascars Inhabitants of Madrasse Separatim et Conjunctim.

Sorry for the differences among you yet the Council had reason for seperating from the President.

8. Wee are sorry for the differences that have been amongst you, and although there may have been to much heat and passion on both sides as there alwayes is in such Cases yet we must do our Councill soe much right as to say they had reason to separate themselves from our President and it was much wiser and more for our Service that they did it joyntly all together than if they had divided themselves into different Factions on both sides.

Mr. Cawley having wronged Us Wee approve his dismission, let him refund.

9. Mr. Cawley has unworthily forfited all our kindnesses to him and is apparently a knave if the proofs be true which have been sent us which we are bound to believe and therefore doe approve of his dismission from our Service requiring you to compell him to refund to the Company what he has wronged them of.

The Presidents notion of deserting the West Coast impolitick, must keep it or loose the Pepper trade.

10. The late Presidents Notion of deserting the West Coast of Sumatra and trusting onely to some fortifications on the coast of India and Mallabarr for the Pepper Trade is a strange mistake in Politicks for he that has but halfe an Eye in the affairs and History of the Trade of India may easily see that wee must keep both or loose all.

Our President by his letter of the 31st October 1690 advises there are 8 English Aldermen in the Corporation which we don t approve of. Of what Casts the Court of Aldermen are to consists of for the future.

11. The next before Us is another of our late Presidents letters dated the one and thirtieth of October 1690 by the Defence wherein we observe the intimation he gives us of there being at present Eight English Aldermen in our Corporation, it is a thing we doe not well aprove of and doe recommend it to the care of you our now President and Councill that for the future most of the Aldermen may consist of the heads of the severall forreigne Casts vizt. One Armenian, one or Two Hebrews, One or Two Portugueze, and one or two Gentues, and one Moore if you have a sufficient number of that Cast which have their proper head or Chief, This we would have you effect by gentleness and perswasion rather than by exerting the utmost of that power which in the Charter is reserved to our President and Councill, because we hope that Corporation consisting of the Heads of all Casts and representing them in a Subordinate manner may enduce all the

Inhabitants to contribute cheerfully to some publick workes such as a Court house, publick Schools, Hospitalls and other things for the good of the place and the severall Nations therein inhabiting which a wise Councill will invent of their owne accord and may be of great ease in the punishing of small criminall offences to our standing supreme authority there, our President and Councill, as will alsoe be their determining of small controversall matters among the Inhabitants who will be the better satisfyed with their judgment when they have one of their owne Casts to represent them in the Court.

How to manage & what use to make of that Court.

12. Mr. Rodrigues writes his Brother that he left the Court of Aldermen upon some discouraging words he had from our late President from whence we may reasonably guesse that others of the forraigne Casts did the like which must not be hereafter; but on the Contrary we would have you give encouragement to the Chiefs of every Cast to attend their duty there and discountenance every Chief of any Cast that shall refuse or neglect or thinke himselfe too good or too great to assist in that Court.

Let not any of the Aldermen be discouraged as Mr. Rodrigues was.

Discountenance only those that don't assist in that Court.

13. Our late Presidents desire of sending out an able experienced honest person to hear and determine all Controversies between himselfe and our Councill has put us upon the choice of Captain John Goldsborough whose experience, wisdom and moderation is sufficiently known to all Englishmen that have conversed in India and we thinke is a very honest man.

Sir John Goldsborough sent to hear & determine all differences.

14. Wee are now come to answer our Councills separate letter of the fourth of November 1690 which is indeed a letter of business and the plainest truth that ever we received from that place which we cannot but acknowledge although in the generall we have a great aversation to all things that look like faction. It contains many complaints against the conduct avarice and undue proceedings of our late President which we shall be very glad our Supervisor at his arrivall may find mistakes or misinformations which have been given to some of our Councill

Our Councils letter of the 4th Nov. 1690 is a Letter of business & plain truth.

Hope the complaints against the President may be found mistakes of which shall write more at large.

of which we shall write you more by our great ships which are imediately following this small one whereof Captain Freake is Commander. But of some things we must take notice now to prevent the like for the future, vizt. His traversing of goods from the Williamson to the Rochester to prevent paying our Customes upon a fraudulent Construction of our Orders. For the future let no such thing be done but all goods travers'd pay as if they were landed, as they do in all Ports of England, secondly, his ordering no customes to be paid for Plank or Timber was a down right fraud and breach of order, for our custome of 5 per cent is so reasonable that we will in no Case allow any dispensation or suspence of the receipt of that not for Rice itselfe or any Commodity whatsoever upon any pretence whatsoever not by our President and Councill or our Generall and Councill or any authority under us in India, of which pray take notice and govern yourselves accordingly. Thirdly, The Seed Pearl he sent home by the Chandos must pay us 2½ per cent custome, as others did, and all Country Ships that have our Pass shall pay us the Anchorage and Tonnage formerly ordered, the strict observance whereof we now recommend to you.

The President blam'd for traversing goods to avoid paying custom let all such hereafter pay.

Not paying custom for Timber was a breach of order we will not dispence with payment of Custom upon any pretence or any order whatsoever.

The Seed Pearl per Chandos must pay Custom & Country Ships that have passes pay Anchorage and Tonnage.

Exact nothing from the Natives but for the Company's use.

Except only for publick Structures.

15. Of all you say touching the exaction and oppression of the Natives We take due notice, and it is our absolute order, that nothing shalbe exacted from them for the future upon any pretence whatsoever, but for the Company's use, and what ourselves shall moderately impose for the publick good or you by our generall orders to that purpose shall see cause to direct, but all constantly for the Company's use, and not to the private benefitt of the President or any other Person whatsoever except our Mayor and Court of Aldermen with the Consent of the Heads of all the Casts and the Approbation of our President and Councill first obtained in writing shall think fit to make some small Leviations when it may be convenient and easy to the People for building a convenient Court-house or Townhouse as aforesaid, or such other publick Structures as are made for common use and Ornament in most of the Incorporated Cityes and Townes in Europe.

Touching permissive goods We confirm what We wrote by the Dorothy. Let all who lade them observe our orders.

16. Touching permissive goods we confirme all we wrote you by the Dorothy having nothing to add thereunto, but that you take especiall care that no persons be permitted to load any goods on our ships for England, but such onely as shall strictly observe our orders and limitations therein mentioned.

Are satisfyed Mr. Hatsell is Governor of Tegnapatam.

17. We are abundantly satisfyed in the Choice of Mr. Hatsell to be our Governor of Tegnapatam, and do promise ourselves great success by having a man of such settled Principles of Justice and Fidelity in that great Post, And now we have that, We would have you withdraw all our People and effects from Conimere, that that Place may be no further Charge to Us. The like We say of Cuddaloor which is much more improper to be retain'd at any Charge being so much nearer to Tegnapatam.

Withdraw from Conimere and Codolore.

This Ship comes as an Adviser without Stock.

What ships we are now sending to you the Bay & Suratt.

18. We send you no Stock by this Ship because you want none, haveing hastened her out before the rest to give you Advice of our ships that are following her, vizt. We have now at Gravesend loaden and ready to sail the Charles the 2^{d}. for your place and Bengall, Captain Dorrell Commander, The Berkeley Castle for Bencoolen first, then to Madrass and Bengall, Captain Pyne Commander, On her goes our Supervisor Captain Goldsborough and from your place We intend Captain Goldsborough shall proceed to visitt our factories on the Malabar Coast and Coast of India, Bombay, and Surat. The Modena, Captain Wildey Commander, directly for Bombay and Surratt. Next after these three ships is falling down to Gravesend The Sampson, Captain Bromwell Commander, (who hopes to be at Gravesend before the departure of the other three) shall go for Bengall directly. After her the next now near ready to fall down the river are the Resolution, Captain Sharp, also for Bengall, and the Elizabeth, Captain Brangwin, directly for Surratt. Captain Gayer is fitting his ship the Josia which we design a later ship but are not yet resolved what place she shallbe for.

Shall send large stocks to the Bay & Suratt & soldiers Factors Chirurgions Medicines and necessaryes to all places.

19. By all the aforesaid Ships We shall send out large Stocks to Suratt and Bengall, and to all places what soldiers we can possibly procure with a great number of factors and Writers with Chirurgeons and Medicines and other necessaryes, and what stock we shall think you may want upon receipt of the next effects and Advices from you.

We have discoursed Mr. Hillar about our Quitt Rents what may be imposed and have resolv'd that they pay according to their bigness, vizt

20. We have had some discourse with Mr. Hiller who lived formerly at Madrass concerning our Quitt Rents, and what may reasonably be imposed and settled for a standing Rule in that matter, and his Opinion is, as it is Ours that the Houses are so different in their forme, Materialls, and bigness, and the better or worse places wherein they are scituated, that they ought to be cast into 4 Degrees and rated accordingly, vizt. for the smallest Houses four Fanams per annum, for the next Degree of Houses 8 Fanams per annum, for the 3d. sort of Houses 12 Fanams per annum, and for the best sort that are built after the European fashion 18 Fanams per annum, which is half a Pagoda. And so he is content to

pay for his own for which he confesses he receives 10 Pagodas per mensem Rent of Bartholomew Rodrigues, and if any person amongst you be so weak or malitious as to think these ground Rents unreasonable to the Proprietors of the Soile as we are in a City so flourishing and that enjoyes such unparalleld Priviledges of Trade in India which we allow, such Malecontents deserve neither our favour or protection.

21. We are well assured and any that have lived at Batavia will tell you that a shop window of 3 or 4 foot square, or a Scullers Boat at Batavia payes more to the Dutch Company than the best House in Madrass payes us, and it is said that one vintner at the Cape payes the Company for his Licence to sell wine [*No figure*] Sterling per annum. We shall never be for such exactions being certainly in our Natures the mildest and gentlest Governors in those respects that can be found in any part of the world, But reason ought to be used in all places towards the support and charge of the Government especially in such places as must alwayes be maintained by chargeable Fortifications, Garrisons, and Ships at Sea, and certainly those that have our Licences to sell Liquors with you ought to pay in some lesser proportion conformable to other places. The Excise of Liquors and Wine Licences in England amounts to above 1,000,000*l.* per Annum.

The Dutch at Batavia pay much more than the English at the Fort. We must have Revenues to support our Charge as all Governments have. The Excise in England yields a million per annum.

22. Every person as near as can be guessed should be rated by our President and Councill according to their respective Trades, for its possible and often so in fact that one of those publick Houses may have more trade than 40 others, And it is our Opinion that the European Publick Houses which have the best trade should pay for our Licence to sell Drink 40 Pagodas per annum, the 2d. sort 20 Pagodas per annum, the 3d. sort 10 Pagodas per annum, and the 4th and meanest trades of English or other Europeans 5 Pagodas per annum, And for the Natives Houses that have or ought to have the same Lycence from us in 4 degrees as aforesaid from 4 Pagodas per annum to one Pagoda per annum. But this we leave to your discretion, All wilbe easy and well accepted if you take great care that our Black Subjects have nothing extorted from them, but what they ought duly to pay unto Us for our 40 Years Charge in nursing up and defending that place.

What Dutys every Punch house shall pay.

23. We know you must be sufficiently provided with Goods in our Godownes and therefore We would have you dispatch this Ship presently to us and use all Expedition therein, giving orders to the Captain to sail directly for the Cape, and if she be there earlier enough to meet the Dutch homeward bound ships to sail from thince with them for England, and if it should happen that she comes too late to meet that Company, order the Captain to proceed directly from the Cape for Barbadoes, and thince home with the best Convoy, or Company that presents.

Dispatch to us the Samuel presently, what orders to give the Captain for sailing homewards.

24. We have made, as you will observe, Mr. Charnock Independant of the Fort, and given him great Authority upon the long Experience we have had of his fidelity which hath constantly appeared, most particularly in the goodness and price of those Effects We have received from him, compared with those we formerly had from his Predecessors.

Mr. Charnock made independant his fidelity apperent in the Goods last sent.

25. We have sent you Duplicates of our Pacquets to him, that you may send them to him by two Conveyances, least one should miscarry, and have hastened this ship, that he might timely know the great Investment We designe in the Bay.

Send the Duplicates of our Pacquets to him 2 wayes.

26. You may reasonably expect to hear something from us of the great Clamours that have been made against us in the House of Commons by a Combination of Interlopers Malecontent quondam Committee men, and some Adventurers that have sold their Stocks at high rates, and would fain come in again at low rates, or procure a New Company that they might rule the Roast, But you may assure yourselves the Companys actions have been so just and generous in all their proceedings that no Dirt will stick upon them, But this Company, thrô Gods Goodness will prove like a well rooted Tree and thrive the better for being shaken with the wind, For in truth all that our Adversaries

Mighty Clamours made against us in the House of Commons by Interlopers &ca.

The Companys actions so just they will weathe all.

have said is but Wind and Froth, Folly and untruth, and so esteemed by all wise and good men.

Send Mr. Charnock Copy of this letter.

27. Send Mr. Charnock a Copy of this Letter, because it will save us the repetition of many things which otherwise we should have mentioned in the same, or other words to him.

Mr. James Wheeler made of Council on condition he annually sends us our Accounts ballanced.

28. Mr. James Wheeler We have made of our Councill at the earnest Entreaty of Mr. John Cooke of our Committee, But it is upon this express Condition, that he be our Book keeper under our Second, and do bring up all our Bookes to a Ballance and sends them annually to us at the usuall time prescribed by our antient Rules, and if he fails in the performance of that, he is no longer to continue of our Councill.

Let President Yale stay at Madrass til Sir J. Goldsboroughs arrivall and adjustment of differences.

29. Mr. Yale our late President we would have continue at Madrass untill the arrivall of our Supervisor Captain Goldsborough, that all Differences may be fairly adjusted there by the wisdom and Moderation of Captain Goldsborough, that upon Mr. Yale's returne hither we may have nothing to say to him but to bid him welcome home, which is our desire may be done likewise by all other persons before their return, which would save them and us a great deal of trouble here.

Mr. Charnock complaining of prejudice we recd. by 4 free ships sailing into Bengall anticipating the Markett &ca.

Let none sail again thither except consigned to our Agent & paying him 2 per cent and to such others as they Please.

30. We hope so well of you our now President and Councill, that we are unwilling to restraine you or our Inhabitants at Fort St. George from any liberty of Trade that is not extreamly prejudiciall to the Company, But Mr. Charnock complaines so justly of the prejudice we received by 4 free Ships which sailed into Bengall about the time, or before his goeing thither, whose Supracargoes and Commanders anticipated the market, raised the price of all Goods and thereby extreamly obstructed the Companys investments, to prevent which Inconvenience for the future We have order'd as you will observe before that no Ships or Goods shall sail into the Bay but such only as are consigned to our Agent, and must pay him 2 per cent for his Assistance, though they may put any other person or persons in the Consignation We aiming in this at nothing but good order and regulation which wilbe best for the private persons concerned, and if any of our servants or any of our free merchants of your place shall presume to act otherwise, after the publication of this Order, We would have you put such refractory servants out of our Imployment, and such refractory Inhabitants out of our favour and protection, giving us the names of any Inhabitants that shall offend in this particular.

If any act otherwise expel them our service and protection sending us their names.

We shall send you 2 Ministers for the Portugeez Language by the next ships.

31. We shall send you by the following Ships two Ministers who have applied themselves to the learning of the Portugueese Language, and have made a considerable Progress therein, We designing them to be Ministers for the Protestant Portugueese Church, which We have desired you to cause to be built by the bounty of such as shall be inclined to further so good a worke, both the said Ministers are sober, able, learned Men, Mr. Lewes we designe to be first Minister

Mr. Lewes to be first & succeed Mr. Elliott.

of the Portugueeze Church and in case of the comeing away of your present Mini[s]ter Mr. Elliott, Mr. Lewes is to succeed in his place being first elected of these two.

Till a Portugeez Church is built.

32. Untill a Protestant Portugueez Church be built We would have Prayers read in the Portugueez Language, and preaching some one day in every Week at the English Church.

Mr. Evans turning merchant continue no longer Minister after these arrive.

33. Mr. Evans having betaken himself so intirely to merchandizing we are not willing to continue any further Sallary or allowance to him after the arrivall of our two Ministers We are now sending you, because the Charge of maintaining four at that place wilbe too great.

34. Wee are very much concerned about our Estate in Tonqueen about 30,000 *l.*, yet to send a ship from hence to fetch off those Effects in these hazardous times we thinke not convenient, as also in respect of the charge, because a ship from hence can carry nothing out to make any profit, That lacquer'd Ware for which We used to send Boards out being quite out of request here and to bring home all our Effects in Pelongs and other silks of that place the whole Tonnage would not exceed 50 or 60 Tons which Pelongs being at this time in no great request would hardly defray the charge of a Ship on purpose out and home. We doe therefore desire you to freight some Country Ship that is strong and stanch of about 100 tons and upwards and send Mr. Cheney or some other of our Councill upon her to bring to the Fort the Companys Effects, and the returnes of any small quantity of Goods you shall think fit to send out by her and order this matter so as it may be the least charge to Us, for the management whereof We shall give you more full instructions by Captain Dorrell. This we have mentioned now only that you may be thinking beforehand of a proper Ship or Sloop for the purpose.

We having near 30,000*l.* at Tonqueen & it not being worth the while to send a ship from hence these times, let a Country stanch ship be sent thither with Mr. Cheney &ca. upon her to bring those Effects & the returns of a small cargo sent by you, back to the Fort, of which shall write more by Capt. Dorrill.

35. You will observe by our Commission now sent our President and Councill that by the said Commission we make Bengall subordinate to the Fort, and by our Letters We make Mr. Charnock absolute Governor of our Affaires in Bengall without Appeal to the Fort, which at first View seems to be a Contradiction of our Commission, but you will find it is not so, upon our Explanation, which is this, during Mr. Charnock's life, We intend to trust him with such uncontroulable power, but in case of his death, We intend Bengall shall returne to its quondam subordination to the Fort.

Bengall to be subordinate to the Fort after Mr. Charnocks decease.

36. There is another thing in our Commission that wants our Explanation that is by our Commission, We have made our Judge Advocate fourth of our Councill, Whereas Sir John Bigs was third of our Councill, which We doe not doe as having a less esteeme of Mr. Dolbin than we had of Sir John Bigs, but for this reason only that Mr. Wavill having been Second and alwayes true to our Interest we do not think fitt to discourage him by lessening him from being Second of our Councill to fall to fourth of our Councill, but rather if Mr. Brown prove faithfull to dispose of him to succeed Mr. Charnock as Chief of Bengall or otherwise as we shall see Cause, And then Mr. Wavill to returne to his place of Second of our Councill, And our Chief Judge to his proper place of Third of our Councill, And in the meantime We would have Mr. Dolben have the same Allowance of Peons &c[a]. as if he were Third of our Councill, during this interim that you have in Effect two Seconds, so tender you see We are of discouraging any man that hath been cordiall to our Interest.

Wee having established Mr. Dolben 4th of our Councill when Sir J. Bigs was 3d. in the same station of Judge is for that Mr. Wavell has been 2d. & We would not remove him to be 4th.

But if Mr. Brown prove faithfull he to succeed Mr. Charnock & Mr. Wavell to returne to the Second ship.

Mr. Dolben to have allowance of Peons &ca, as if he was Third.

37. Sir William Langhorne hath a Kinsman with you or in Bengall one Mr. Trevor Games, we hope he is honest and carefull, if he prove so lett him have your Countenance and preferment, as soon as he can meritt it by his diligence and good behaviour, without which he will have no favour from Sir William.

Prefer Mr. Trevor Games as he deserves being Sir W. L. Kinsman.

38. We are like to fall late in the year with these Ships, and therefore you must hasten them down to Bengall with all imaginable Expedition, we would not have them stay above two dayes in Madrass road.

Hasten down our following Ships to Bengall.

Sir J. G. order'd to erect a Steeple for Our Church.

39. We have desired Captain Goldsborough to go in hand immediately with the building of a Steple to your Church with the money collected for that purpose according to Dimensions given him, and by our next Ships, we intend to send you a Ring of six tunable Bells to fix in our Steeple, which the Founder tells us cannot be cast sound at this Season of the Year.

Shall send you a Ring of six Bells.

Restore Amaulry Saugere to his place. If he desire it let him come home paying his Passage.

40. In the year 1687 We sent out one Amaulry Saugere to serve us as a Writer in your Factory of whom we have received a good Character, and being given to understand, that by the Permission of our President and Councill, He sailing into the Bay with Mr. Chardin, at his returne from thence was disappointed of his former Station, and others preferred before him, His Relations have earnestly importuned us on his behalf, that he may be restored to the place he had before his going into the Bay, and receive encouragement in our Service as he shalbe found to deserve, which we recommend unto you to see it done accordingly, And if the Climate do not agree with his Constitution he may be be permitted to return for England, if he desire it, He paying the Charge of his Transportation back. So commending you and our Affairs to the Guidance and Protection of the Almighty, We remaine

Your very Loving Friends

Jos^{a}. Child.	Joseph Herne, Governour.
Richard Hutchinson.	Thomas Cooke, Deputy.
Nathanael Mounteney.	George Boone.
William Langhorne.	Thomas Boone.
Jn^{o}. Moore.	Jn^{o}. Cooke.
Thomas Rawlinson.	John Cooke.
Francis Tyssen.	Jn^{o}. Dubois.
James Wallis.	Jn^{o}. Goodere.

General Letter to Surat, dated February 18, 1691. Per Dorothy.

[Public Despatches from England, Vol. 10, pp. 39–45.]

London the 18th February 1690–91.

Our [Presi]dent & Councill [of] Surrat.

Letters from Engld. [. . .] from India. [. . .] arrived.

1. With this you have the copies of all our overland letters to our late Gen-[erall] and Councill. Since our last we have your large Pacquet overland of the 28th. Aprill 1690 [and] since that is arrived the Chandos the 30th. ultimo from Fort S^{t}. George Captain Bonnell Commander, for which and all other Gods infinite mercyes to this Comp^{a}. his holy [name] be praised.

Jn^{o}. Childs death [. . . .] ented.

2. Wee do greatly lament the loss of our brave Generall Sir John Child a worthy upright and gallant man, we can pay him no thanks now, but to be kind to his widow and children, which we will certainly be.

Capt. Vaux quitting [. . . post] att Bombay not [. . .]

3. Wee are well assured Captain Vaux must needs be in a great streight to qui[t] such a strong Post as Bombay Castle, and trust his life and liberty in the hands of a people that had been so perfidious a little before. But we hope God turned his Resolution for the best and therefore whatever the issue be we approve of what he did.

[. . .] better yn. expected.

4. Wee have letters from [Agent] Gladman & we write to him by this conveyance: our Affairs there, notwithstanding [your] fears, were in a good condition, as we suppose you have understood from him before [this time]

[. . . .] wanted att.

[. . .] for a Supply

5. Your want of money we [have] seriously considered & have turned our thoughts to expedients for your immediate [supply] & considering it would be little less than distraction to send any sum [by] the Dorothy, [we] here-

with send you Sir John Chardins Credit upon [the] principall Armenians in Surat £ for 50,000 sterling, which we have no reason to fear, but that it will be well complyed with, althô to prevent accidents, we do now [write] to Fort S[t]. George, where we have not onely money enough but credit enough if need [be] to supply you with whatever you shall have occasion for, that they should furnish you [by] Exchange or otherwise as shall be needfull, which is a full answer to your aforesaid letter, we shall now proceed to new matters.

[. . .] to ye. Fort if to Supply.

6. The Owners of the Great new ship at Blackwall (which we hoped to send out to you about this time) had killed some part of their provisions & fitted some part of [her], rigging when the ship was taken up for their Majesties service in the narrow seas, [and is] since bought out right for that purpose, by which means we are [disappointed] of loading that great quantity of cloth, which the Armenians had provided here, & [was ready] embaled, there being about 14 or 16 of that Nation here, and more are comeing from other parts of Europe But to make them as much requitall for that disappointment as [we can at] this time, we have ordered the Dorothy to proceed directly for Bombay and there will goe upon her onely two or three Armenian Vakeels, for fear of the present hazard [of the Sea,] but we and they must submit to the fate of war, which is such at this time, [neither that] any great ship, or such a number of men, as are fit to navigate such a ship, [can this Spring] be permitted to go to sea in Merchants affairs. But by this little we have done [for them] we have demonstrated our willingness to accommodate them.

[. . .] igned out in service. Dis-appointmt. to Co[s]. [. . . . .] there. Dorothy ordered to Bombay. Inconveniencyes of ye. warr [. . . .] to bee prevented.

7. It falls out happily in one respect, That you have at this time so many [good ships] in India: For altho' they may be a little burthensome to you, in respect of their [loading] home their great Tonnage, they may be very beneficiall to us, and the Arme[nians], if you and they can procure goods enough to ship upon them, which would now [come to a] greater market here, than hath been in Europe for thirty years past, and to [much the] better market, by an accident that hath befallen the Dutch; four of their last fleet, that we heard [of safe] the back side of Ireland (in which were the greates[t part of] their peice goods) having [miscar]ryed, as it is thought in Holland, and here, there [being] no news of them; Wee men[tion t]his to you as a further argument to encourage the Armenians to take the opportunity [of the] great Tonnage for Europe, which you are now in [a condition] to spare them: There is [nothing]they can buy at Surrat, or on that side of India [but will] now turn to a great [account, so] as the Commodities be good in their kinds.

Ships in India advantage to ye. Comp[a]. Goods att a great price in Europe. Loss of Dutch shipps ye. Rice of p[ce]. goods.

8. Your Tonnage is so considerable, and every thing here so dear that we [shall not need] to give any particular directions or limitations what commodities to send [us you must] buy all you can of every thing good, and good peñyworths to fill up our ships. Olibanum, sticklack and about Fifty or one hundred Tons of salamoniak for kin[dlage] in all your [ships in one year, measured] goods and Indico of all [sorts] which is and is like to continue a noble com[modity] especially as long as this warr lasts in Europe, which has brought Freights [from Barbadoes] and Jamaica to £ 24 ℔ Ton, which formerly used to be at three and four Pounds [per ton and] five Pound ℔ Ton at utmost.

[Wh[t.] goods desired in Europe. Indico a great commodity. India Freight high.

9. God Allmighty having taken to himself our late worthy General [it becomes] us prudently to provide for a regular succession, under our larger seal and therefore we have thought fit to appoint M[r]. Bartholemew Harris to be our to be our President of Surrat and Governour of our Island of Bombay, Captain John Vaux Deputy Governor of Bombay, and second of our Councill of Surrat, M[r]. Samuel Annes[ley to be] third of our Council at Surratt and Bombay, M[r]. George Cooke to be fourth of [our] Council at Suratt, and Deputy Governour of our Island of Bombay, in case of the death or absence of Captain Jn[o]. Vaux, all the rest of our Councillours of Surratt & Bombay, and on the coast of Malabar we confirm in the stations wherein our late Generall left them at the time of his death.

Generall death Succession [pro] vided for. appointed att Surratt. [. . .] Gov[r]. of Bombay. [. . . severall other [. .] sons.

[. . .] time in Parliament.

10. This sessions of Parliament hath been so taken up with multiplicity of business relateing to the present war in Europe, that our Bill in the House of Commons for establishing the Compª. by Act of Parliament, hath not been once read, neither have wee earnestly prest it at this time, because as we cannot, much less can others, get out any Shipping at this time, And we think the longer that matter suspends, and the more wee hear of the violence, and injustice of English Pirates in India, the more the Nation will see, and be convinced of the bad consequences of Interloping and want of [discipline] and such authority as the Dutch have in India, and will the [readylyer] confirm all the Powers of our charter by an indisputable Law.

[. . .] ye. Compª.

[. . .] furthered and why.

[. . .] an advantage to [. . .] pª. designes.

[. . .] thy order to ye.

why

[. . .] pected home.

11. This ship we would have you send to the Fort immediately ordering her to touch at our Factories on the coast of Malabar, to take in what Pepper and other Goods they [may hold] in readiness, and to fill up at the Fort with Bale or other proper goods for Europe [and in] regard the Chandos is arrived here, and the Princess of Denmark Captain Haddock, and New Defence, Captain Heath expected home from the Fort and Bay this next summer. It will be necessary that you should immediately send the Benjamin, or the Herbert or some other of our three deckt re[turning ships to Fort St.] George to load home from thence, they having stock sufficient to [compleate any ship you can send them] with Bale goods & Pepper from Bencoolen.

12. For return of [our ships homeward in this time of violent war] with France, Wee thinke it is [their safest way to] sail directly [for Bardadoes without] seeing the Cape [or stopping] at St. Helena for [fear] some French [men of war may] be there; and from Barbadoes they may come home, [as the] London and Charles the Second did, in company of the Barbadoes Fleet which [usually are numerous and have a convoy] to attend them.

[dir]-ections for lading with wooll.

13. I[t is] impo[ssible for us to have such skrews made] as we formerly sent you, for [pressing of] cotton wooll, the party that [made] them being dead. But we long since [ordered those] lying at Fort St. George [to be sent you which if] they have not done; Let every Comand[er have so many] strong bags of Wooll as they can possibly [steeve] after their holds are full with other goods, according to the manner used in Turkey, and at Cyprus, which all our [Com]manders and many of the Mates do understand very well; This will mend their [freights], prevent dead Tonnage, and be some advantage to us, Cotton Wooll being now at ten [pence per] pound, But notwithstanding that price, which wee are not sure will hold, send us [no cotton] wool if you can load our ships with other Commodities.

[. . .] to be sent, if other goods [pro]curable.

Persons entertained.

14. We have entertained Mr. Daniel Wheeler and Mr. William Brabourn as [factors] to serve us, ye. first att Suratt ye. other at Bombay at the usual salaries, who wee hope may do us good service.

Capª. Youngs demandes ye. Compª.

15. Herewith you have a clause of our generall letter of the 21th. December [1683] concerning the Demands of Mr. Garway Administrator to Captain Henry [Young] deceased for 1746 Rupees 51 Pice, whereunto wee never yet received any answer, by which wee have for several years past been strangely importuned for payment there of [it being] alledged to be due on the said Captain Youngs account, in the Surrat Bookes, [and], suspecting some part thereof might have been issued to Captain Youngs widow [in the] Countrey, delayed the same in expectation of hearing from you, till in Nove[ember last] upon a suit commenced against us

for wt:

[. . .] in Chancery

[. . .] ye. Compª.

[. . .] Setled by ye. Court.

in Chancery, Wee judged it for the Compªs. honour, [and] advantage to submit to a compromise, whereby it was agreed, That we should [immediately] pay him £ 196 s. 10. d. 1 for the value of said Rupees, and that if no part thereof [shall] appear by the Compªs. Bookes to be received, on the return of this ship from Bom[bay or shall] have been satisfyed to Captain Youngs Creditors, or Relations in the Countrey, [then we] are to allow him interest for the said 1746. R. 51 P.

Mr. Younges accott. to bee sent ye next shipp.

pursuant to an order of Court [of the 5th] December 1683, otherwise he is obliged to reimburse us, such part of the said [summe as by] such Bookes shall appear to have been legally paid in part thereof. Wee there[fore desire] you will upon return of this ship send us a particular account of this Affair [without] further delay.

16. There was one M[r]. Robe[rt Smith] whom we sent out as Mint [master for Bombay] in the year 1680 that came [from thence] in the year 1683/4 under no [good character] from you but the particulars of his misbehaviour or the [cause] of his dismi[ssion] from our service was not mentioned; he hath [ever] since been clamouring on [us for his] wages & dyet for the whole time contracted for [by his] Indentures, and has com[menced a suit at common] Law for recovery thereof, we [are] wholly in the dark what [defence to make] by way of Plea to his Declaration and do therefore desire to ha[ve a] particular [account of the reasons of his being sent home before his limited time [was expired] and what allowance was made him there, both for Dyet and Wages and what his [misdemean[rs]] were whereof fail not to advise us by the next. And as often as you shall have occasion to dismiss and Send home any of our servants, let us have a particular account of the causes thereof, and of what moneyes they have received in part of their wages, and your Bookes of Accompts, and Consultation Bookes by every conveyance.

[. . . .] Smith clamor [. .] his Demands and pro [. . . .] of ye. Comp[a]. Compa. at a loss for want thereof. [. . .] to persons to be dismissed [. . .] sent to ye. Compas. severall things to be sent [. . . .] Ca. and when].

17. M[rs]. English the widow of M[r]. John English acquaints us, that she received a letter from our Generall, by Captain Wildey Dated the 5[th]. of June 1688, giving her an account of the death of her husband, as also the copy of an Inventory of his Estate, taken by M[r]. Th[urscross], with a promise to send her accompt by the next ship, which you have not yet done: Therefore, pray send them by the next (if not already sent) & receive her full effects into our Cash, and send her a Bill upon us, ffor such delays of sending home dead men's accompts creates very great clamours upon us, which for the future wee would have you take especiall care to prevent.

Mrs. Englishes death. [Ac]cot. of his Estate and whose [custody]. Ordered to bee remitted. [. . .] want of such Estates [. . .] to ye. Compa. Mr. [H]arris in disgrace at Surratt

18. Wee have heard a [report,] which wee hope is not well grounded, That the Mogull will not permit M[r]. Bartholomew Harris to continue Chief at Surrat, because he says, a man that hath been in [prison] by his authority, cannot remain with a good heart towards him, or his government. Wee hope this unreasonable humour will not hold long, And wee hear like[wise] from the Fort, that it was thought there the Mogull [was] dead, so that wee hope [M[r]. Harris] may continue our President there but if [it can not] be, he must remove to his government of Bombay, with the [title] and [salary of] President, and Captain Jn[o]. Vaux, notwithstanding our Commission, continue [Chief of] Surrat.

Alteration. [. . .] Successor.

19. The Armenian Contract is of so great advantage to the Nation, [and] this Comp[a]. that wee would have you indulge them, by all meanes whatsoever, and in no case to hinder them from [loading Baftaes or] any sort of goods of India, [con]signing them to ourselves [according] to their contract, because when they com[e] hither, they are ours upon [the terms] of their Contract, which you need not [doubt] but at this Extraordinary [market we shall] gladly accept of, and punctually [pay] them for according to our contract, though they [should] amount to above [£100000 sterling] ffor the proffitt upon them to the Comp[a]. will be little

[Arm]enian Contract at advantage to ye. Compa. [reason] why

less if not altogether as [much as] the profit of their [own] goods, upon which they run the adventure of the sea besides the growing charge of their Fort and Factories.

20. After such a [tedious] chargea[ble] war, as we have had with the Mogull and during the high rate of East India Commodities here, we must a little Com[ply with] the necessity of the [times & therefore] if you [find] wee may [better dispatch and] load some of our ships from Surrat, wee doe for the present dispence with our former Orders, but otherwise our firm resolution is, That all our great ships shall constantly ride in Bombay Road, and there discharge and reload, that being the onely secure place to preserve our stock in money or goods of cons[siderable] value.

Bombay much better.

21. All your Bombay and Surrat Bookes are so greatly wanted, that you must work continually to bring them up, and send them home to us, ffor We are able to make up no acc^{ts}. here wthout them which occasions great Clamors upon

Bookes much wanted.

22. The Armenians in London petition and press us hard, to send out [three or] four great ships, on which they design considerable adventures in Cloth & [Money] and to Comply with them as far as in us lyes, we resolve to lay the Case before their Majesties and Councill, setting forth the advantage it is to this Nation to have such a quantity of Cloth bought, and sent abroad, and the poor manufacturers thereby set at work at such a dead time of Trade as this is: by which wee hope to [prevail] for a permission to send out four of our great ships the latter end of this summer when the fighting of the great ffleets will be over.

Armenians press ye. sending out shipps. King and Councell petioned. hope of a Permission.

23. There is at Madrass a great sum̃ of money lyeing dead of private [persons] which was intended to be invested in Diamonds, but the famine, and the [Mogols] Conquest of Gulcondah (which has occasioned great troubles in that [Country] prevented the Proprietors of their expectation of Diamonds, by means wh[ereof] their stocks have layen long dead at Madrass, whereupon the Principalls here [have] requested us to accept of their money there by Exchange, But we tell the[m as the] truth is, that we have [no need] of money there, nor will accept of any, or they [drawing] any upon us from [thence] except their investments on that Coast were mo[re] considerable, then [they have] been of late, having been indeed very pitifull, con[side]ring our large stock in their hands: But we have told the Proprietors, that [if they] will contrive to pay any money into your Cash where we hope for larger [invest]ments, you shall accept thereof at eight Rupees to twenty shillings, or [one pound] sterling, and accordingly give them Bills of Exchange for the same [adding] over and above y^{e}. Principall inserted in your said Bills of Exchange [to pay] them Interest, for whatever they shall deliver you, after the rate of five ℔ c^{t}. per annum from the time their respective sums of money shall be so paid into our [Cash into] which agreement of ours, you are to conform yourselves.

[. . .] to private stocke [. . .] Madrass.

24. We recommend unto you to give such encouraging Employment [to Mr.] Morris as you shall find him to deserve, having (as you know) suffered [much in] our service.

Mr. Morris recommended.

25. In October last wee directed you to give Bills of Exchange to the Owners [of] the Worcester, for what moneys should be paid into our Cash on their accompt being now informed that you are possessed thereof. Wee would have you draw [your] Bills upon us, for what you have received at the same rate, with [Interest] as is mentioned in the foregoing paragraph.

Bills to bee drawne on ye Compa. for the Worcesters accou't.

26. A complaint having been made, to severall Members of Parliament as also unto us: That the Estate of Captain Giles Hill late Commander of the Ba[wdon] came unto the hands of our Deputy Governour Captain John Vaux, the Tru[st] whereof is attested by the Oaths of severall persons, Copies of all the Affida[vits] come herewith, and no account thereof having been given us; Wee do hereby [order] direct, that you fully inform yourselves of the matter of

Compd. agt. ye. Compa

Estate of Capt. Hill.

fact: And what par[t of] the said Estate has come to his hands, that you cause the same to be brought [into] our Cash and draw your Bills of Exchange, upon us, for the true value [to the] Relict of the said Giles Hill, or such as have legall power to receive the [same] And send us a perfect Narrative of that whole affair, That wee may be ab[le to] represent the same to the Parliament as there shall be occasion.

In whose custody.

no accot. given to bee inquired into and remitted Exact accott. to bee sent to enable Compa. to informe ye. parliamt.

So commending you and Our affairs to y^e^. Protection of the Almighty We remain.

Your loving friends,

JOHN MOORE.	THO: COOKE Dep^ty^.
GEORGE BOUNE.	BENJAMIN BATHURST.
ROB^T^: MARSHALL.	JOSIA CHILD.
NATHA: MOUNTENY.	THOMAS RAWLINSON.
JOHN COOKE.	JOSIA CHILD.
FFRA: GOSFRIGHT.	JOSIA CHILD Jun^r^.
JOSEPH HERNE Gov^r^.	EDWARD DES BOUVERIE.

LIST OF THE COMPANYS PACQUETT TO THE FFORT BY THE DOROTHY.

1. Companys Generall Pacquett for the ffort intended to have been sent by the Tonqueen Merch^t^. who went away without it.
2. Comp^as^. Pacquett design'd for Bencoolen by Ditto ship.
3. Commission and Instructions for Cap^t^. Knox Com^der^. of y^e^. Tonqueen.
4. Comp^as^. Generall for the ffort dated the 18^th^. ffebruary 1690.
5. Copy of y^e^. Comp^as^. Generall to Suratt of Ditto date.
6. Comp^as^. Pacquett to the Bay Containing Viz^t^.
   Comp^as^. Generall to the Bay dated y^e^. 18^th^. ffebruary 1690.
   Copy of the severall Paragraphs in the ffort Letter relating to the Bay.
7. Comp^as^. Generall to Tonqueen dated the 18^th^. ffebruary 1690 and copy of that of the 24th May 1690.
8. Commission under the Comp^as^. Larger seal ffor Establishing the President and Council at the ffort.
9. Copy of the Comp^as^. Generall to the ffort dated 11^th^. September 1689, sent Via Bombay [by the Herberh].
10. [Indenture of Covenant and the Bond for Mr. Robert Seveson] Jun^r^. to be a ffactor. His bond for performance was sent with Mr. Wrights of which see hereafter.
11. Copy of the Company's Commission for establishing y^e^. Presidency at Suratt.

LIST OF THE PACQUETT TO THE FORT PER SAMPSON.

1. Companys Generall to the Fort dated the 29^th^. February 169½.
2. Copy of the Company's Generall to the ffort dated the 22^th^. January 169½ sent by the Samuel.
3. Copy Companys Generall to y^e^. Bewinthebbers dated y^e^. 29^th^. ffebruary 169½.
4. M^r^. Hillars Bond for 90. Pagodas.

5. Invoice of the ship Sampson.

6. Bill of Lading of Ditto ship.

7. 100 Passes in all the 3. Pacquetts.

8. List of Bullion and Fine Goods shipt on the Sampson for the Fort (sent apart).

GENERAL LETTER TO TONQUEEN, DATED FEBRUARY 29, 1692. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 10, *pp.* 51, 52.]

OUR CHEIFE & COUNCILL ATT TONQUEEN — LONDON THE 29 FFEBRUARY 1692

[. . .] blamed.
[. . .] John.
[. . .] power.

It is soe long Since we had any of yours to Answer or write to you that we shall send you noe Coppy of our last this being principally to lett you know that we are now sending S^r^. John Goldsborough to be our Superintendent Commisary Generall & Cheife Governour of all our Cityes, Townes, fforts & ffactories and over all our affaires in the East Indies. His constant residence is most likely to be att Fort S^t^. George, being the largest and most healthfull place of our Dominions in India. His orders in especiall you are in all things for the future to observe & conjoint with him, or in his absence you are constantly to follow the orders of our President & Council of ffort S^t^. George.

2. We find by our bookes we have a great estate in your hands [not] lesse as itt appeares to us then £ 30000 Sterling. You sent us such miserable short returnes by Cap^t^. Poole in his last Voyage & those goods which came by him turned to such a looseing accompt as gave us noe manner of Encouragement to send an other ship from hence w^th^ a fresh stock untill wee had received the fruits of the old remains in your hands, of what we sent out formerly which has layen soe long dead that the Interest of our money must have eat out more than the proffitt we can ever expect to receive from that stock. Other discouragements we had likewise from sending out any ship to you directly from hence Viz^t^. the Deareness of ffreight and Demorage [in] this time of warr being 50 ℔ % more than formerly and the low [prices] of all your silke wares wro^t^. Your Raw silke and your muske which are Cheaper yet here than they were in times of Peace and it is to noe purpose you know to send good mony after bad, the End of all trade being gaine and not to [run] hazards and endure Care and trouble [for] losse of the Principall.

[. . .] for not
[. . .] to Tonqueen.

to send a person [to] ye. ffort as cheife [Ton]queene.

3. Wee have upon all these reasons now thought fitt [to] empower and require our Comissary Generall and our President [and] Councill aforesaid to send to you an able experienced ℔son of our [said] Councill of ffort S^t^. George to preside and be Cheife of our Councill att Tonqueen while he stayes there and is to be empowered to act in things on our behalfe as if we our selves were present upon the place and you and all our servants there are entirely to obey and follow all such orders as you shall receive from him, more ℔ticular[ly] in stateing and presenting to him all our Accompts ballanced [to] the time of his arriveall with you & delievering him all our Effects of what nature or kind soever to Carry for our Accompt to ffort S^t^. [George.] Wee mean soe much thereof as is already or can be invested [while] he [stays] there into any of the Comodities of that Country and We give him further power to place or displace at his di[scretion our] Cheife or any of our Councill or servants there if he shall [think it] expedient for our Interest though we hope at his arriveall [he will find] all things soe prudently and honestly Carried on by our [present Chief] and Councill that he will find little cause for any [alteration more] than to add M^r^. Hunt to our Councill [which] we have pa[rticularly] desired our Comissary Generall to recomend to such [of our Councillors] at the ffort as he shall thinke fitt to send with this great authority to Tonqueen. For all other matters we must re[ferr you to] the comands of our said Comissary Generall & President & Councill [aforesaid and

[p]ower there.

to deliver him.

to be delivered him.

place & displace as he shall see convenient.

Mr. Hunt to bee of Councell.

the] ꝑticular orders you shallfrom time to time [receive from the] ꝑson they shall send to you soe authorised as aforesaid. Wee are.

Your loving ffr[iends]

JOSEPH HERNE, Governour.
THOMAS [COOKE] Deputy.
JOSA. CHILD Senior.
JOHN [COOKE] OF HACKNEY.
WILLIAM LANGHORNE.
THO. RAWLIN[SON].
JOHN MOORE.
R. HUTCHIN[SON], Senior.
NATHANIEL TENCH.
R. HUTCHINSON.
FRANCIS TYSSEN.
RA. MARSHALL.
JOHN GOODERE.
NATHANIELL [MOUNTENEY].
FFRA. GOSFRIGHT.
JAMES [WALLIS].

[. . .]

GENERAL LETTER TO [THE DUTCH COMPANY] DATED FEBRUARY 29, 1692. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 10, p. 53.*]

RIGHT HONOURABLE AND OUR HONOURED FRIENDS.

EAST INDIA HOUSE LONDON THE 29TH FEBRUARY 169½.

Notwithstanding it hath pleased God to confirme [&] strengthen the amity between y^e. two Nations to which you and we doe respectively belong by y^e. Happy Government of their present Majesties our most gracious King William & Qu[een] Mary under which wee & all their Majesties subjects might Live happily, yet some such men we fear there are amongst us, that cannot be content except they may Licentiously injure their Neighbours haveing given out Speeches as if they intended againe to send Interloping ships for East India, and one wee hear is called [the] Success of about 350 Tonns one Yenifer Commander & M^r. Edward Clyre Supercargoe, is already gone for Moca, We think none of them dare adventure to any Port in the Mogul's Countrey and that we shall be able to prevent them there, & on the Mallabar, Gingee & Coromandell Coasts, & on the West Coasts of Sumatra, The greatest difficulty of disappointing them by Us is in China & y^e. [Red Sea where we have no settled Factoryes. But to doe what we can therein here, We have resolved at present to give all the ships we send to China or the Red Sea] Certificates of the fform enclosed, to the intent your [people in] India and the Natives of those places may know our [ships] from Pyrates or Interlopers, and for as much as the [Dammage] those evill sort of people doe is the same to your [Company as] it is to ours, we think it necessary to send you Copies of the forme of Such Certificates as we shall likewise [send to Mocha] & China, praying you to give order to your Chiefs [and Servants] in India, to assist ours, in disappointing the designes of such injurious & Licencious men. Compas. Life to y^e. Dutch Compa.

Your four Pacquetts rec^d. from [His] Excellency the Heer Hop wee shall according to his desire tran[smit] by four of [our] ships & give full directions to our [Comisary] & Adm[iral] S^r. John Goldsborough of this [Squadron] now going out t[o consult] with your Governour & Councill of Zeilon, and [to joyne] with any of your ships in assaulting the ffrench ffleet [at] Polichèrry on the Coast of Coromandell or in Bengal or wherever they can meet with them in India, Wee are.

Your Hon^rs. most affectionate Friends
& humble servants.

[*No Signature*]*

TO THE R^T. HON^BLE. THE PRESIDENT
& COM^TEES. FOR THE UNITED NEITHERLANDS
EAST INDIA COMPANY AT AMSTERDAM
THESE PRESENT.

* [In T.O. copy it is signed as the letter above, except that the name of Frances Tyssen is omitted, & those of John Du. Bois & John Cooke of A. F. are added.]

GENERAL LETTER TO FORT ST. GEORGE, DATED FEBRUARY 29, 1692. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 10, p. 55.*]

OUR PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL
AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

LONDON 29TH. FEBRUARY 1691--2.

The same disorders which our Agent in Bengall [complains] of, of Country ships we have in Effect from Our Age[nt in Persia] to the shame of the English Nation as well as the [Companyes] Loss that ships with English Colours, should not only [be consigned] to others and not to our Agent, but likewise runn by [our Factory] of Gombroon to Congo to the hazarding the Loss of Our [customes.] This mischief Wee will have remedyed, and therefore [Wee] do appoint that it shall be the Loss of any Mans Place in [our service] that shall be concern'd in any such disorderely Courses of which Wee hereby require our Presidents Agents and Chiefs in all places to take Particular Notice and act accordingly without [partiality] or favour to any Man that they shall know to be guilty in that case for the future.

Your loveing friends.

JOSA. CHILD, Senior.	JOS[EPH HERNE] Governour.
JOHN DU BOIS.	THOMAS COOKE Deptv.
NATHA. MOUNTENEY.	THO. RA[WLINSON]
JAMES WALLIS.	R. HUTCHINSON, Senior.
JOHN GOODERE.	R. HUTCHINSON, Junior
WILLIAM LANGHORNE.	RA. MARSHALL.
JNO. MOORE.	JOHN COOKE OF H.
NATHAMAELL TENCH.	JNO. [COOKE OF] A. F.

LIST OF THE COMPANYS PACQUETT TO THE FORT BY THE BERKELEY CASTLE.

1. Companys Generall to the ffort dated the 29th. ffebruary 169½.

2. Copy of the Companys Generall to the ffort dated the 22th. January 169½. Sent by the Samuel.

3. Companys Genll. to Tonqueen dated the 29th. ffebruary 169½.

4. Copy of the Compas. Genll. to the ffort dated ye. 11th. September [1689] sent by the Herbert Via Bombay.

5. Copy of the Compas. Genll. to the ffort dated the 9th. May 1690. Sent by the Orange.

6. Copy of the Companys Genll. to the Fort dated the 30th. May 1690. Sent by Do. ship.

7. Copy of the Companys Genll. to President Yale dated the 30th. May 1690. Sent by Do. ship.

8. Copy of the Companys Genll. to the Fort dated ye. 3d. October 1690. Sent overland.

9. Copy of the Compas. Genll. to the Fort dated ye. 19th. December 1690 design'd for Tonqueen Via Bencoolen.

10. Copy of the Compas. Genll. to the Fort dated the 18th. ffebry. 169⅟ & 9th & 11th. March following. Sent by ye. Dorothy.

11. Copy of the Compas. Genll. to Tonqueen dated ye. 24th. May 1690. Sent by ye. Orange Via Madrass.

12. Duplicate of the Comission for establishing Mr. Higginson President & ye Councill at ye. Fort. in ye. Box apart.

13. President Higginsons Indenture of Covenants to be by him duly executed & return'd with his security in a Bond of £ 20[00] in a Box apart.

14. M^r^. Hillars Bill for 90 Pag^os^.

15. Invoice of the Berkeley Castle.

16. Bill of Lading of D^o^. ship.

17. Charterparty of the Berkeley Castle.

18. List of factors & Writers on the Berkeley Castle, Charles & Sampson for the Fort & Bay & Bencoolen.

19. Additionall Letter to the Fort dated y^e^. 29^th^. ffebruary 169-

20. Patterns of Cloth sent for India on y^e^. Modena.

21. Two Kegs of Medicines for the Fort.

22. List of Bullion and fine Goods shipt on Berkeley Castle for the Fort sent apart.

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